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Dryden District Fisheries Management Plan

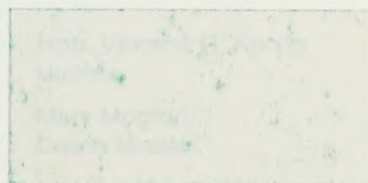
1987-2000


Draft



Ontario

Ministry of
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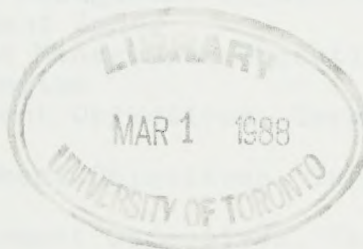
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Dryden District Fisheries Management Plan

1987-2000

Draft



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister
Mary Mogford
Deputy Minister

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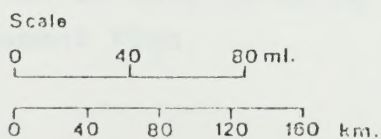
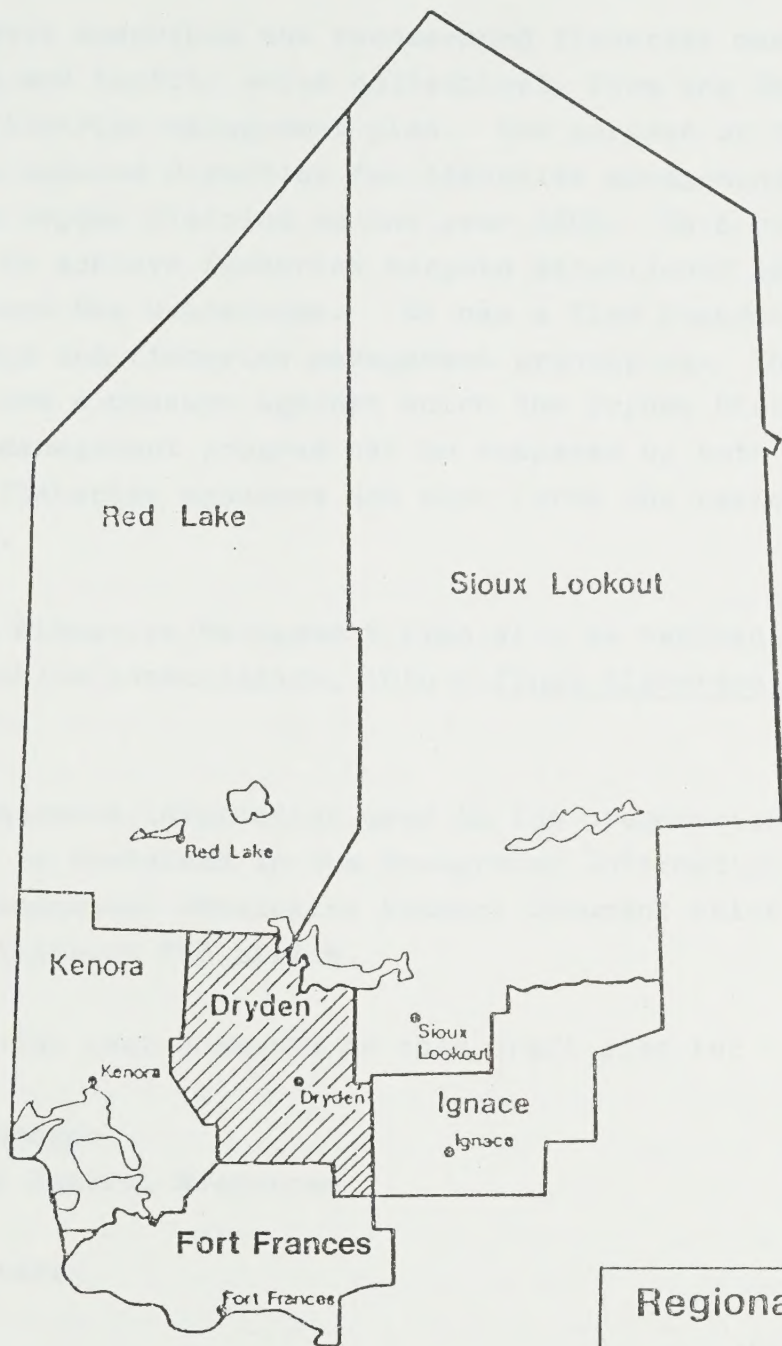
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DRYDEN DISTRICT



Regional Setting



Figure 1.

(iii)

PREFACE

This document describes the recommended fisheries management strategies and tactics which collectively form the Dryden District fisheries management plan. The purpose of this plan is to provide concise direction for fisheries management efforts within the Dryden District to the year 2000. This plan was developed to achieve fisheries targets established in the District Land Use Guidelines. It has a firm foundation based on public input and fisheries management principles. This draft plan provides a measure against which the Dryden District fisheries management program can be compared by both the public and local fisheries managers and also forms the basis for the final plan.

This Draft Fisheries Management Plan will be refined, following the next public consultation, into a final fisheries management plan.

Detailed resource information used in the preparation of this draft plan is contained in the Background Information and the Optional Management Strategies Summary Document which are on file in Dryden District MNR office.

Please provide your comments on this draft plan to:

District Manager
Ministry of Natural Resources
Box 730
Dryden, Ontario
P8N 2Z4

Phone: (807) 223-3341

We would like to receive comments by October 31, 1987 so that they can be considered in the preparation of the Fisheries Management Plan.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this draft management plan is to outline the recommended fisheries management efforts within the Dryden District to the year 2000. More specifically, it describes proposed fisheries management actions to be carried out in the first 5 year operating interval. See implementation schedule (Section 4.2, pages 82 - 98).

1.2 PLANNING AREA

The Dryden District fisheries management plan pertains to all waterbodies within the Dryden Administrative District of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (Figure 1). The district is centrally located in the south half of the Northwestern Region of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR). Dryden District has management responsibility for certain lakes which straddle their district boundaries. They are listed in Appendix 2.

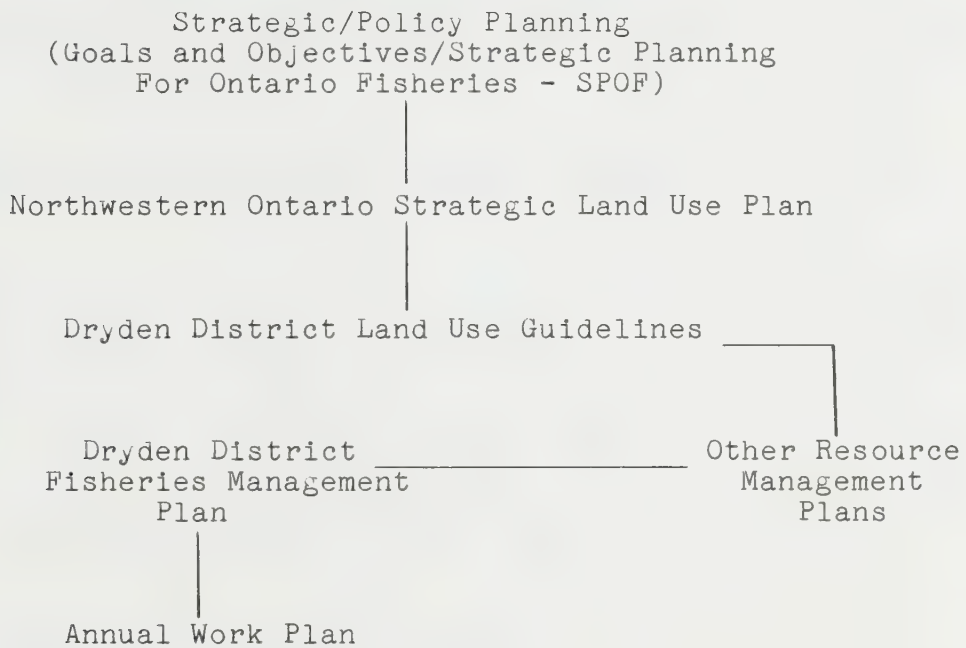
1.3 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Resource management planning is a component of OMNR's corporate planning and management system as noted in Figure 2. It translates objectives and targets from higher order plans (e.g. Strategic Land Use Plans (S.L.U.P.), District Land Use Guidelines (D.L.U.G.)) to on-the-ground actions related to managing the resource. Resource management planning results in specific statements of how particular resources, or combinations of resources, and technical knowledge are to be applied for the achievement of pre-established program objectives and targets. Resource management planning takes place within a specified land base, normally at a sub-district level.

Described in this fisheries management plan are detailed management strategies which indicate HOW the Ministry intends to manage the fisheries resources of the Dryden District to the year 2000. The implementation of specific management actions, inherent to the achievement of these strategies and tactics, is described in detail in an implementation schedule for the first 5 year operating period. It shows where specific programs will be conducted in the district. Annual fisheries work program plans will be developed in accordance with the implementation schedule and will describe the actual fisheries management programs to be conducted in a particular year.

FIGURE 2

District Fisheries Management Plan and the
Ministry of Natural Resources Planning System



1.4 POLICY AND TECHNICAL DIRECTION

This management plan has been prepared according to ministry policy. Specific direction was provided through the Dryden District Land Use Guidelines. In addition, the operational components of this plan will conform to the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. (R.S.O. 1975)

Technical direction was provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources Planning Manual for District Fisheries Management Plans. All management strategies and tactics satisfy the principles stated in the Strategic Plan for Ontario Fisheries (SPOF) and are consistent with accepted fisheries management principles and practices.

1.5 DETAILED BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY DOCUMENTS

A background document has been prepared which contains detailed information necessary for the development of a district fisheries management plan. A document which summarized the background information and introduced optional management strategies was produced last fall. This was presented at an open house as well as to persons who requested the document. Both documents are available for public review at the district office.

1.6 INTEGRATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

Integration of the fisheries management plan with other district programs was achieved through a planning team which consisted of representatives from timber management, lands management, wildlife management, fisheries management and the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. The planning team was responsible for the review and evaluation of the summary document and draft management plan to ensure that fisheries management recommendations were consistent with the direction of other programs.

1.7 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The OMNR will be seeking public input and constructive criticism on this draft plan. Open houses and meetings with interested groups will comprise the primary forum for public input to the fisheries management planning process. An open house to allow the public to review and comment on the draft fisheries management plan will also be held and a fisheries information tabloid will be distributed to the public. In addition to the open houses, copies of the summary background information document were sent to representatives of various interest groups and tourist lodge operators to ensure as many specific problems and issues as possible were dealt with.

All public comments have been considered in the development of this draft plan. Public comments were first categorized by the section of the summary document to which they pertained. Within each section, comments pertaining to similar topics were collated. Comments were then evaluated in terms of their economic feasibility, pertinence to the subject, legal acceptability, social acceptability, consistency with fisheries management principles and policy, complexity, environmental impacts and administrative requirements. A record of public comments to date is on file at the district office.

2.0 DISTRICT FISHERIES PERSPECTIVE

2.1 FISHERIES RESOURCES

Dryden District contains 1,320 lakes greater than 10 hectares with a total surface area of approximately 200,732 hectares. There are 122 known coldwater lakes including 5 stocked brook trout and rainbow trout waters. There are 1,198 warmwater lakes greater than 10 hectares. Warmwater lakes comprise 68% of the total lake surface area. Eagle Lake is the largest lake in the district at 27,691 hectares or 14% of the total district lake surface area. In addition, there are 42 major rivers within the district covering an additional 4,634 hectares for a total water area of 205,366 hectares.

The major fish species inhabiting the lakes and rivers in the district are walleye, northern pike, lake trout, lake whitefish, muskellunge, smallmouth bass and yellow perch. Sauger are also common in Eagle Lake and in Wabigoon Lake and adjoining waters.

The total allowable yield of sport fish species and whitefish from all waterbodies within the district is 526, 250 kg./yr. (Table 1). Eagle Lake is estimated to produce 92,750 kg./yr. or 17.6% of the total district allowable yield for these species. Approximately 61% of the allowable yield are identified as sportfish species (walleye, sauger, lake trout, northern pike, brook trout, smallmouth bass, yellow perch and muskellunge).

2.2 CURRENT AND PROJECTED RESOURCE USE

The key users of the fisheries resources in the Dryden District are as follows:

TABLE 1: Estimated Allowable Yield and Current and Projected
Use By Species

DRYDEN DISTRICT

Lake	Species	Estimated Allowable Yield (kg/yr)	Current Use (kg/yr)	Projected Use (kg/yr)
District Lakes (Excluding Eagle Lake)	Walleye	125530	450528	535757
	Sauger (incl. with Walleye)		0	0
	Northern Pike	107375	257284	317694
	Lake Trout	30066	35704	41432
	Brook Trout	154	100	100
	Smallmouth Bass	45893	31067	38834
	Yellow Perch	34905	19327	24159
	Lake Whitefish	81085	25736	46562
	Muskellunge	8514	12975	16218
	Subtotal	433522	832721	1020756
Eagle Lake	Walleye	26300	59758	70770
	Sauger (incl. with Walleye)		1638	1667
	Northern Pike	16400	39658	47041
	Lake Trout	1600	3193	3916
	Smallmouth Bass	14000	624	757
	Yellow Perch	10650	507	615
	Lake Whitefish	19700	32240	32753
	Muskellunge	4100	1256	1570
	Subtotal	92750	138874	159089
Total District	Walleye	151830	510286	606527
	Sauger (incl. with Walleye)		1638	1667
	Northern Pike	123775	296942	364734
	Lake Trout	31666	38897	45348
	Brook Trout	154	100	100
	Smallmouth Bass	59893	31691	39591
	Yellow Perch	45555	19834	24774
	Lake Whitefish	100785	57976	79315
	Muskellunge	12614	14231	17789
	Total *	526272	971595	1179845

* Production does not include coarse species or river production.

note: the basis of partitioning allowable yield by species is
described in SPOF working Group No. 12 Report.

1. Anglers
 - residents of Ontario
 - non-residents of Ontario
 - residents of Manitoba
2. Commercial Fishermen (bait)
3. Commercial Fishermen (food)
4. Native People (subsistence fishery)

2.2.1 ANGLING

Approximately 32,700 anglers (82%) using district lakes are non-residents (74% from the USA and 8% from Manitoba) while the remaining 7,300 (18%) are residents of Ontario. The major species sought by anglers are walleye, northern pike, lake trout and muskellunge. Smallmouth bass are increasing in popularity in the district. The most preferred warmwater and coldwater species are walleye and lake trout respectively.

The total annual angler harvest of sportfish from district lakes other than Eagle was estimated to be 803,603 kg. in 1980 (Table 3, Summary document). Figures in Table 1 show the total harvest and includes commercial and native subsistence harvests. Non-residents accounted for 82% (659,842 kgs.) of the angler sportfish harvest. Angler harvests of sportfish represent about 99.0 % of the total harvest of sportfish from district lakes. The balance is harvested by commercial fisheries and for native subsistence. Resident angler effort is expected to remain stable to the year 2000. Non-resident angler effort is expected to increase by 25% to the year 2000 based on trends in past effort data (Provincial Angler Surveys).

A 1980 study indicated that 81 % of non-resident anglers are estimated to use tourist facilities. The total direct revenue generated by the 109 district lodges, primarily through accommodation in 1985 was \$13,082,000. This value does not take into consideration any economic spin-offs such as revenue received by gas stations, tackle shops, restaurants and sundry other services.

The Crown Land Camping Program initiated in the Northwestern Region resulted in a reduction of 21 % in the number of non-resident anglers in the Northwestern Region in the first three years of the program (1984 - 1986). This estimated reduction is significant but may be short term. This program prohibited non-resident camping in designated areas (Figure 5). In these areas non-residents are required to stay at privately owned or licenced tourism establishments. Economic benefits were realized by the province and the community, especially the tourism industry. (Ref. Crown Land Camping Evaluation, Northwestern Region, 1987)

The tourist industry in the district is intensively developed on all large lakes such as Cedar, Perrault, Wabaskang, Eagle and Wabigoon to name a few, and extensively throughout the district on small to medium size lakes. Non-residents are the primary clientele. There are 109 commercial main base lodges currently operating in the district. There are 25 tourist lodges on Eagle Lake. In addition, there are 18 outpost camps in the district on 17 lakes and a total of 828 boat caches in the district comprised of 390 commercial, 219 private and 219 resource users (trappers, baitfishermen) (Figure 3).

2.2.2 COMMERCIAL FISHING (BAIT)

There are 49 baitfish harvest blocks in the Dryden District. In 1985 these blocks were allocated to 23 baitfish licencees. Eight of these licencees were tourist operators licenced to harvest bait from specific waters only within blocks licenced to other operators.

The average reported annual harvest for baitfish for the Dryden District for 1980 through 1985 was 179,730 dozen. The demand for baitfish is expected to increase to 183,000 dozen per year by the year 2000, based on the current rate of use per angler day and the projected increase in the number of anglers.

The block system of management has provided for a fairly stable industry in regards to the total number of fishermen involved and in terms of maintaining supply and meeting demand. This industry generated \$ 404,432 from the direct sale of bait in 1985. In addition it also creates seasonal local employment.

2.2.3 COMMERCIAL FISHING (FOOD)

In 1984 and 1985, a total of 15 waters were commercially fished in the Dryden District, including one lake fished under a short term permit (Figure 4). Seven of the licenced waters are fished in alternate years. The target species harvested is primarily lake whitefish with small quotas set for walleye, pike and lake trout to cover incidental (accidental) harvest. White suckers, cisco and burbot are also taken. Total commercial fish harvest in 1985 from commercially fished lakes was 59,800 kgs. of which 4226 kgs. or 7 % consisted of sport species. Eagle Lake accounted for 34,700 kgs. or 58 % of the total. Sport fish harvest by the commercial fishery accounts for approximately 0.4 % of the district sport fish harvest by all users.

The landed value of the 1985 harvest on all district lakes was \$65,015 (including some coarse fish). The commercial fishing industry also provides a small number of seasonal jobs.

2.2.4 NATIVE SUBSISTENCE HARVEST

There are 3 reserves located within the district, which are inhabited by 261 registered natives. (Figure 5)

Native people are estimated to harvest 6,510 kgs. of fish per year, mainly from the Wabigoon Lake and Eagle Lake systems, 90% of which are sportfish. The native subsistence harvest of sportfish from district lakes represents 5,900 kgs. or 0.6 % of the total current sportfish harvest by all users. The native harvest rate is not expected to increase to the year 2000.

FIG 3

TOURIST OPERATOR
OUTPOST
X - TOURIST OPERATOR NUMBER
BOAT CACHE
X - Number of Boats
N - Classification

- 1 For the name of the operator refer to appendix
 - 2 Boat Caches are given as total per lake for each classification, exact locations are not shown.
- Classifications are as follows:
- C - Commercial - for use by tourist operators.
 - B - Recreational - for use by tourist operators.
 - P - Private

June 30, 1976

DAVID L. GAYLEN

Sub-120000 10000

This plan recognizes many of the basic issues including subsistence requirements and commercial utilization of the fisheries resource by the Indian Communities. Plan amendments will occur if and when an Indian Fishing Agreement requires changes in the document.



2.3 OVERVIEW

Problems and issues have been detailed in the background information documents. A few additional problems and issues were identified during the public consultation.

This section will provide an overview of the main problems and issues that are significant throughout the district. More details are presented in the following sections.

Problems and issues can be summarized under four general categories: Angling Quality, Environmental Quality, Conflicts, and Public Awareness and Scientific Knowledge.

(i) Angling Quality

Angling quality is the reasonable expectation of catching fish of different sizes and species including trophy specimens and fish for the occasional meal. It also includes certain attributes of the experience be it wilderness fly-in trips or road accessible outings.

In Dryden angler harvest levels for the more traditionally preferred species, walleye, northern pike, and trout are above the biologically allowable limit across the district (Table 1). While angling quality is still considered to be good for these species the size of fish and angler success rates in certain areas have declined. Generally, too many fish are being killed to sustain, over the long term, the recreational aspects of catching these species. More emphasis on catching and releasing fish will be necessary especially with the projected increase in demand for fish and fishing opportunities. This undoubtedly will mean a change in angler attitudes and practices.

Some tourist operators have initiated techniques aimed at lowering harvests which also promote the sport of angling. They include lower daily limits, total catch and release, shorelunches

but no take out catch and angling for non-traditional species such as whitefish. All of these techniques have been developed voluntarily as the industry recognizes more and more the importance of quality angling opportunities to the long term strength of the industry.

There are only a few truly remote angling areas remaining in the district which offer a unique wilderness experience to anglers. Maintaining these remote areas will ensure anglers have access to a mix of angling experiences.

Finally, the district believes there is a need for some special management to protect some unique areas and lakes that produce trophy specimens, particularly lake trout. The management in those areas will be based on extremely low over all harvests.

(ii) Environmental Quality

Environmental quality is essential to the maintenance of healthy quality fisheries. Protection, maintenance and enhancement of environmental quality are ongoing program priorities.

The degradation of fish habitat can impact on the resident fish populations and can potentially result in the loss of fish stocks and fishing opportunities. In addition, the presence of contaminants may render fish flesh unsuitable for human consumption.

Habitat loss or degradation can arise from a number of sources.

Conflicting land and water uses can have detrimental effects on fisheries habitat. Shoreline development can create problems in terms of reducing habitat and habitat quality in district lakes. Cottage and other shoreline development activities which remove aquatic plants or alters spawning areas will ultimately result in deteriorated fisheries habitat. Filling and dredging can also result in a loss of spawning and nursery habitat. The most important areas of concern for loss of environmental quality is

for developed lakes close to population centres. There are some man-made dams in the district which pose a potential threat to sportfisheries if critical water levels are not maintained at certain times of the year. Historical water level records for some dams are on file in the district office. Water level control and it's relationship to fisheries management needs to be closely scrutinized. Beaver dams are also considered a threat to walleye reproduction in this district and the number of dams has increased significantly in the last 3 to 4 decades.

Other conflicting land and water uses which may have adverse impacts on both water quality and fisheries habitat include aggregate extraction, mineral exploration and extraction, industrial activities, timber harvesting and municipal development. Industrial pollution downstream of the Dryden pulpmill has historically been a problem.

The government must be continually vigilante in matters of habitat degradation. People who operate around lakes for various reasons ie. timber harvesting, mining, cottaging, etc. have a moral and legal responsibility which they share with the government, to ensure that they do not contribute to habitat degradation.

(iii) Conflicts Among Users of the Environment and the Resource

Part of the ministries role in resource management is resolving conflicts between users. Social conflicts between users are continuing facts of life with which the government has to deal.

While conflicts arise between various users of the resource, two of the more significant conflicts which were evidenced during the first open house are:

- (a) Access control, while perceived by residents to be an allocation to the tourist industry, is necessary to protect fly-in tourism values. These remote opportunities are for the benefit of all users. Some anglers have expressed an

interest in maintaining this kind of angling experience. OMNR does not promote exclusive use by the tourist industry but will attempt to protect remote angling values particularly when fly-in tourism values are involved.

- (b) Anglers consider the commercial harvest of sport fish to be detrimental to the resource and in direct conflict with their recreational activity. Actually only 0.4 % of the total harvest of sport species is taken by the commercial fisheries. However there is still a conflict on specific lakes where competition for sport species is high.

(iv) Public Awareness and Scientific Knowledge

The district has a responsibility to impart a greater amount of information regarding the complexity of fisheries management as well as involving the public in management of their resources. From public responses received from meetings and open houses held with resource users, there would seem to be support for an expansion of public education programs. This should include the role of fish stocking as a management technique. Clearly, based on public input, more effort is required in developing an understanding of the role of fish stocking and its applicability on fish management.

Fisheries managers are often hampered by inadequate knowledge or scientific data regarding such items as fisheries productivity and yields; characteristics of resource users and long term species interactions. The district has a good data base on Eagle Lake and Wabigoon Lake as well as harvest information on a large number of the district lake trout waters. Additionally the district has a good understanding of the problems and issues related to fisheries. More information is required in specific locations in the district especially in the area of innovative management techniques such as size limits, catch and release,

etc.. Angling licence revenue is expected to result in additional fisheries staff and assessment programs which will do much to increase and improve the district fisheries data base and the management actions that can flow from such data.

3.0 MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

3.1 GENERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

The objectives of fisheries management in Northwestern Ontario are to protect, rehabilitate, enhance and maintain Ontario's fish communities and their environment to provide an optimum contribution of fish, fishing opportunities and associated benefits to society.

The planned use of the allowable harvest of the fisheries resource by user groups will be based on an objective, careful examination of all relevant biological, social and economic factors to ensure that the optimum benefits accrue to the residents of Ontario. It is the responsibility of both anglers and commercial fishermen to participate in co-operative management and adhere to their catch limits, quotas and the regulations to protect the fish stocks and guarantee their perpetuation for the future.

The intention of the Dryden District is to develop a greater public understanding of fisheries, their values, stresses and management techniques. Public involvement and education will be emphasized to assist the M.N.R. in providing sound management direction. The district believes that this is the cornerstone of this plan and it will result in a greater understanding and improvement in fisheries management in the following areas:

- . developing an expanded knowledge base through the collection and analysis of resource inventory data and by monitoring the impact of experimental management programs;
- . using available knowledge to the fullest to manage fisheries more effectively and reduce conflicting uses of the environment;
- . maintaining and, where necessary, rehabilitating aquatic environments;

- . preventing overfishing by monitoring fish communities for signs of stress and adjusting permitted harvests accordingly;
- . adjusting the use of fish resources where there are competing users to provide the optimum mix of benefits and to maintain healthy balanced fish populations;
- . encouraging public awareness of the issues involved in fisheries management and developing mechanisms for public involvement in management decision making; and,
- . enforcing current fisheries regulations consistently, equitably and effectively.

3.2 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ZONES

Zones have been established to assist the district in obtaining the overall broad fisheries management objective. The configuration of the zones have been established taking into consideration such things as the type of fish in a zone, the size of the waterbodies, the degree of access, the user type and the amount of fishing pressure. Wherever possible physical boundaries such as roads, railways and shorelines were used to facilitate identification of zone boundaries.

Where neighbouring OMNR administrative districts have similar criteria, zones have been extended beyond district boundaries. These zones have been discussed and refined with the staff in adjacent districts.

Some zones will not be established in legislation in this planning period but all zones will provide the logical basis for the systematic collection of information and more precise management. As the need arises to tailor management to specific areas, or specific lakes, some legislation will be required.

Management objectives or intents have been developed for each zone. They have their foundation in D.L.U.G. and specify the districts long term management direction relative to the fisheries resource and its use.

Zones also represent a management compromise. Generally it is not feasible to manage district lakes on an individual basis except the larger ones such as Eagle. Zones represent a collection of lakes which, for the most part, are to be managed as a unit.

Zones are an opportunity to manage for specific types of fishing opportunities such as trophy or quality angling. Trophy opportunities are defined as the chance to catch big fish and requires a low harvest to maintain the opportunities in the long

term. Quality fishing is defined as the opportunity to catch more fish per unit of effort of a variety of sizes and includes the opportunity to catch large fish. This can only be achieved by reducing the amount of fish caught and kept. Another aspect of quality fishing is the retention of remote fishing in some areas.

In some zones we will be managing for existing tourism use and existing resident angling opportunities. In other zones the creation of additional angling opportunities will be encouraged by influencing the location of resource extraction roads to access new waterbodies, especially for alternative species. Following resource extraction, roads will be allowed to remain for recreational use if not in conflict with the management intents of the zone, but they will not be repaired or upgraded.

(1) Zone 3 - Upper Manitou - Teggau Lake

Description - This zone is comprised mainly of prime lake trout habitat. It lies in the extreme south end of the district and extends into Kenora and Fort Frances. Portions of the zone are well accessed by timber access roads from both the Dryden and Fort Frances areas but relatively remote lakes are still common. Two of these remote areas, Upper Manitou and the Hawkcliff-Fisher-Teggau Lake area have been reserved for remote angling opportunities.

Management Intent

- manage specific lakes for trophy fish (primarily lake trout and musky) opportunities (Zone 3 Upper Manitou)
- enhance the overall quality of lake trout angling opportunities
- enhance the quality of warmwater fishing opportunities

- manage for fisheries based tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities.

Expansion of existing tourist facilities or new starts will not be supported when they will result in an increase in the harvest of walleye, pike, musky or lake trout.

- no new Crown land cottage subdivisions
- manage for existing resident angling opportunities but no new access will be specially created nor will existing roads be maintained specifically for fishing.

(11) Zone 13

Description - Very little of this zone lies in Dryden District most is in Kenora District. There are a mixture of warmwater and lake trout fisheries in this zone but the Dryden portion is mainly lake trout. The zone is fairly well accessed by road, especially the Dryden area. Relatively remote lakes are still common in the Kenora part. Some lakes have moderate numbers of cottages. The zone is situated east of the town of Kenora mainly between Jones Road and the Gordon Lake Road.

Management Intent

- enhance the quality of warmwater and coldwater fishing opportunities
- manage for fisheries based tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities

Expansion of existing tourist facilities or new starts will not be supported when they will result in an increase in the harvest of walleye, pike or lake trout.

- no new Crown land cottage subdivisions

(iii) Zone 14 - Winnange - Rushing River

Description - This relatively small zone contains mostly lake trout lakes. However, these lakes also support populations of warmwater species and are well known for the trophy walleye they produce. Direct or indirect access exists here. Some lakes have cottages and/or tourism facilities and there are two provincial parks, Winnange and Rushing River. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Freshwater Institute have most of their study lakes (Experimental Lakes Area) in this zone. They have requested that a number of them be given sanctuary status for research purposes. The OMNR supports research in this study area and also share in all research data collected.

Management Intent

- manage for high quality (trophy) walleye fishing opportunities.

Small populations of trophy walleye occur in many of the large lake trout lakes in this zone ie. Winnange, Manomin.

- enhance the quality of warmwater and coldwater fishing opportunities
- manage for fisheries based tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities.

Expansion of existing tourist facilities or new starts will not be supported when they will result in an increase in the harvest of walleye, pike or lake trout. This intent may have to change if, and when a campground is developed as a part of Winnange Provincial Park.

- manage for planned increases in road accessibility. (This applies only to the Kenora District)
- no new Crown land cottage subdivisions

(iv) Zone 15 - Bunyon Lake

Description - This zone is composed entirely of warmwater lakes and is extensively accessed by both the Dore Lake and Bear Narrows roads and by connecting timber access roads from Dryden and Fort Frances. The north boundary is composed mainly of timber extraction roads accessed from Dryden and the east boundary Highway 502. The south boundary is mainly the height of land between Zones 3 and 15 with access from Fort Frances. It is fairly well utilized by both residents and non-residents for both day use and camping.

Management Intent

- manage for increased recreational opportunities for residents
 - Access roads will be allowed to remain for recreational purposes when no longer required by the resource extractor but they will not be maintained. New resource access roads will be encouraged to access additional lakes, especially for alternative species. Non-resident camping is prohibited in much of this zone as specified by the Crown Land Camping Program.

(v) Zone 16 - Eagle Lake

Description - This zone is Eagle Lake plus a few small fringe lakes. Eagle Lake contains about 14% of the district water surface area and accounts for

approximately 18% of the fish yield. It is primarily a warmwater lake except for the west arm which is considered good lake trout habitat. The lake contains walleye, pike, smallmouth bass, sauger, lake trout, perch and musky. There are about 24 tourist lodges and 300+ cottages on the lake. There is one active commercial fishery on the lake targeted to whitefish. Non-resident camping is prohibited in most of this zone as specified by the Crown Land Camping Program.

Management Intent

- enhance the quality of warmwater and coldwater fishing opportunities.

Possession of only one large walleye, northern pike or lake trout as well as the conversion of commercially harvested sportfish to angling opportunities will increase the angling quality.

- no new Crown land cottage development
- manage lake trout and musky for trophy fishing opportunities.
- manage for existing resident angling opportunities, but no new access will be specially created nor will existing roads be maintained specifically for fishing.
- manage for fishery based tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities

Disposition of Crown land for the purpose of new tourist development which increases the harvest of walleye, pike, or lake trout will not be supported. Expansion of existing tourist facilities will be discouraged because additional harvest of pike, walleye and trout would be considered detrimental to the tourist industry given the current use and status of this fishery.

(vi) Zone 17 - Wabigoon and Adjoining Lakes

Description - This zone contains approximately 10% of the district water surface area and includes Wabigoon, Dinorwic, Butler, Trap, Mile, Olsen, Paulson, Larson plus a few fringe lakes. The area contains all the major district warmwater species. The area is well accessed with the Town of Dryden and villages of Wabigoon and Dinorwic adjacent. The Wabigoon Indian Reserve is on Dinorwic Lake. This zone contains Butler Lake Park, 14 tourist lodges and numerous cottages and residences.. There are active commercial fishing licences on Wabigoon, Butler and Dinorwic Lakes. All are targeted to whitefish. Non-resident camping is prohibited in most of this zones as specified by the Crown Land Camping Program.

Management Intent

- manage for quality warmwater fisheries for walleye and pike
- manage for restoration of the musky fishery.
- no new Crown land cottage subdivisions
- manage for existing resident angling opportunities but no new access will be specially created nor will existing roads be maintained specifically for fishing.
- manage for fisheries based existing tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities.

Disposition of Crown land for the purpose of new tourism development or expansion of existing tourist facilities which will result in an increase in the harvest of walleye or pike will not be supported.

(vii) Zone 18 - Cedar - Ord Lakes

Description - This is a large zone bounded on the north by Lac Seul, on the west by Zones 13 and the west shore of Wabaskang Lake, on the east by Highway 72 and the Sioux Lookout-Dryden District boundary and on the south by Highway 17. This zone is composed mainly of warmwater fisheries with scattered lake trout lakes. The area is well accessed and heavily used by both residents and non-residents. It has the highest number of main base camp tourist lodges, boat caches and outpost camps. There are 46 main base camp lodges, 4 outpost camps and 374 boat caches including 159 commercial, 129 private and 86 resource users. There are numerous cottages in the zone on numerous lakes. There are commercial whitefish fisheries on 7 lakes. The Wabaskang Indian Reserve is located on Wabaskang Lake. There are two provincial parks, Blue Lake and Aaron as well as the Gullwing Study Area and Lola Lake Provincial Nature Reserve in this zone. There are some areas where non-resident camping is prohibited such as Little Clay Lake area, Big Canyon Lake area, Perrault, Cedar, Ord Lake areas, and in the Gordon Lake-Indian Lake Chain areas.

Management Intent

- manage for increased recreational angling opportunities for residents.

Access to new waterbodies which are primarily in the northeast portion of the zone will be encouraged, especially for alternative species, taking into consideration tourism and fisheries habitat guidelines. Wherever feasible, industry will be encouraged to locate

access roads close to underutilized lakes. Access roads will be allowed to remain for recreational purposes when no longer required by the resource extractor but they will not be maintained.

- manage to enhance the quality of the warmwater and lake trout fisheries
- manage for Crown Land cottage development on specific lakes

Proposed cottage development lakes appear in the implementation schedule.

- manage for fisheries based tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities.

New tourism development or expansion of existing capacity which will result in an increased harvest of walleye, pike or lake trout will not be supported.

(viii) Zone 19 - Anishinabi Lake

Description - This zone is situated in the northwest corner of the district. Road access, which has been limited up until recently, is increasing. The area is fairly well utilized by the tourism industry in the open water season and local residents in winter. Fishing quality has deteriorated on both lake trout and walleye lakes. There are no commercial fisheries in this zone. Non-resident camping is currently prohibited along the access road corridor from Kenora District in the west end of the zone.

Management Intent

- manage for remote angling opportunities and wilderness recreational experiences

Some areas of this zone have been protected for remote angling for years, particularly for non-resident tourism but all anglers can fish all waters. Every effort will be made to manage the general area as remote. For example, when roads are built for resource extraction they will avoid providing access to the lakes. The Crown Land Camping Program may be used in this zone to restrict non-resident campers in certain areas.

- manage for quality lake trout and warmwater fisheries

(ix) Zone 21 - Agimak Lake

Description - Most of Zone 21 is in Ignace District but a significant portion lies in Southeast Dryden District. The area is made up mainly of coldwater lakes and comprises approximately 25 % of the district lake trout waters by number (26). The area is well accessed by logging roads and is heavily utilized by residents primarily in the winter and by non-resident mainly in the open water season. Many of the lakes are overharvested for lake trout. There are commercial whitefish fisheries on Stormy and Kawashegamuk (Long) Lakes. A remote angling area comprised of Boyer and several surrounding lakes is located in this zone.

Management Intent

- manage to enhance the quality of the lake trout fisheries while maintaining the quality of warmwater fisheries.

Lake trout harvest is at or exceeding the allowable yield. Average lake trout size taken by anglers appears to have decreased. The Dryden portion of Zone 21 is primarily lake trout habitat.

- manage for fisheries based tourism only to the existing capacity of facilities

Expansion of existing tourism facilities or new starts will not be supported when they will result in an increase in the harvest of walleye, pike or lake trout.

- manage for existing road accessible recreational opportunities

Generally road access to new fisheries will be discouraged but may be considered to access alternate species. Existing access roads will be allowed to remain when no longer required by the resource extractor but they will not be maintained.

- no new Crown land cottage development

(x) Zone 22 - Barrel Lake

Description - Only a very small portion of this zone is in Dryden District. The rest of the Zone is in Ignace District. The main Dryden lakes in this zone are Melgund, Hartman and Avery. All are warmwater lakes. Fishing pressure is heavy particularly for walleye and the zone is extensively accessed.

Discussion

The following management intents apply to the whole zone most of which is in Ignace District. In the Dryden portion of this zone, opportunities for additional road access is limited to small relatively unknown lakes.

Management Intent

- manage to enhance the quality of the warmwater fisheries while maintaining the quality of the lake trout fisheries

There are no lake trout lakes in the Dryden portion of this Zone but the warm water fisheries will be enhanced.

- manage for Crown Land cottage development on specific lakes

This intent is applicable to the Dryden portion of the zone. Proposed cottage development lakes appear in the implementation schedule.

- manage for increased road accessible tourism based opportunities

This intent applies to the Ignace portion of the zone.

- manage for increased road accessible recreational opportunities for residents and existing day use opportunities for non-residents

This zone has been extensively accessed. Opportunities for new access is confined to the Ignace portion of the zone.

3.3 SPECIFIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES, TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

Specific fisheries management objectives have been identified for sportfish, lake trout, commercial food fish, commercial baitfish and muskellunge. The purpose of these objectives is to identify for the user and the manager the end result which is to be attained. These are consistent with the broad objective, but reflects demands of the resource user and the capacity of the local fisheries to meet the demand.

Targets have been assigned for sportfish, lake trout, commercial food fish, commercial baitfish and muskellunge. These targets are to assist in the attainment of the objective and in some cases are refinements of D.L.U.G. targets.

In addition to refining targets, some of the preferred strategies and tactics indicated in this document will also result in other changes to the Dryden District Land Use Guidelines particularly in some of the designated land use activities. Changes to the D.L.U.G. as a result of fisheries management planning are itemized in Appendix 1.

In order to achieve targets there are problems and issues that must be addressed.

Strategies explain what is to be done in overcoming a problem, tactics identify how the problem will be solved. Tactics must be monitored to determine their effectiveness in solving the problem as well as their influence on the attainment of their targets.

Preferred strategies and tactics recommended by the district for implementation during the first five year period (1987-1991) are presented in the Implementation Schedule.

3.3.1 SPORTFISH MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE, TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

Sportfish Objective

To provide for optimum social and economic benefits derived through sportfish while maintaining self sustaining populations.

The term "sportfish" includes walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass, sauger and yellow perch. Of these species, walleye and pike are desired by most anglers and to a lesser extent by the native subsistence and commercial fisheries. Smallmouth bass are gaining in popularity and are rated second to walleye by some non-resident anglers both in edibility and fighting qualities. Some walleye and pike are harvested by the commercial fisheries incidental to the harvest of lake whitefish. Conservation and preservation of the sportfish resource is the first management consideration. Habitat and harvest levels must be maintained in such a way that they provide for optimum resource regeneration.

The sportfish objective must recognize use by all user groups while considering the relative contribution of each in terms of economic and social benefits. The recreational harvest of sportfish will often provide the most economic benefit of the species.

Sportfish Target

Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 381,000 kgs. per year and the demand for angling opportunities of 333,100 angler days.

The allowable yield for walleye, northern pike, smallmouth bass and yellow perch is 381,000 kgs. per year. This is a biological limit below which quality angling and resource stability can be

maintained. The district will strive to achieve this level by reducing the harvest of walleye and northern pike and encouraging greater utilization of natural populations of smallmouth bass, yellow perch and other non-traditional game species such as whitefish.

Current harvests of walleye and pike are exceeding the allowable yield level. While commercial fishermen and subsistence fisheries also use sport species, angling is the most significant use. Angling practices therefore will have to put greater emphasis on catch and release fishing and less emphasis on the taking of limits particularly for the traditionally sought species. More opportunities will have to be made available for anglers to fish for underutilized species such as smallmouth bass.

It is especially important for this change in angler practices to occur now because the district has forecasted an increase in the number of non-resident anglers. The district intends to manage for this increase in non-residents because of the desire to maintain economic growth in the community. Generally, though, as can be seen in the previous section on zone management, it is the districts intent to focus non-resident growth within the existing tourism infrastructure. This approach is supported by Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. Additionally however, it will be incumbent upon the industry to work with the district to find innovative techniques which will accommodate an increase in clientele while at the same time lower the harvests of traditionally sought species. The projected demand for angling opportunities to the year 2000 is 333,100 angler/days. This means that the angler harvest satisfaction level of 2 kgs. of sportfish per angler day in the creel will be reduced to approximately 1 kg. per angler day. This proposed change in D.L.U.G. targets is also dealt with in Appendix 1.

While the resident population is not projected to increase some new opportunities will be found which will help to redistribute angler numbers more evenly on district waters. This will involve to some extent allowing more access to smaller previously

inaccessible lakes. It will be necessary though to respect the need to preserve remote angling experiences.

Sportfish Problems and Issues

Angling Quality

Problem 1

Current (and projected) harvest of walleye and northern pike exceeds the annual allowable yield and is too high to sustain quality angling opportunities. Quality angling is defined as the opportunity to catch fish of a broad size range including occasional large specimens.

This is a problem in the district as a whole but is most serious in Zones 16 and 18 which are high tourism use areas with the largest concentration of main base camp tourist lodges. Zone 17 (Wabigoon Lake and adjoining waters) is probably being harvested to the allowable yield level or slightly over for pike and walleye. Overharvest is most acute in Eagle Lake (Zone 16) and Ord, Thaddeus, Cedar, Perrault, Wabaskang and the Indian Lake Chain (Zone 18).

Strategy A

Reduce the harvest of walleye and northern pike so they do not exceed the allowable yield level.

The district is recommending the following tactics to reduce harvest. At this time they do not include legislative changes to daily catch or possession limits. We prefer to evaluate the effectiveness of the following tactics.

Tactic 1

Implement a possession limit of one walleye over 50 cm. (19.5") total length in a daily limit of 6 fish and a possession limit of

one northern pike over 70 cm. (27.5") in a daily limit of 6 fish.
(All Zones)

A 50 cm. walleye would weigh approximately 1.6 kg. or 3.5 lbs. and a 70 cm. northern pike would weigh approximately 2.25 kg. (5 lbs.) in this district. This tactic will conserve mature breeding fish particularly when congregations of large fish are vulnerable to angling in spring and fall. It will also maintain the quality of the fishery while continuing to provide opportunities to catch large trophy fish.

Tactic 2

Establish new sanctuaries for the period April 1 to May 31 on specific walleye spawning locations. (Zones 16, 17 and 18)

On large lakes with heavy angling pressure walleye and pike stocks are often dependent on a few critical spawning areas. In these situations sanctuaries are effective in protecting brood stock by lowering the harvest of these prime breeders.

There is strong public support for this practice. Sanctuaries will be monitored and adjusted in accordance to the need for greater protection and with public consultation.

Tactic 3

Implement the angler validation tag system for non-residents for walleye and pike. (Zones 3, 15 and 21)

The angler validation tag for walleye is currently in place on border waters on Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods. The purpose of the program was to increase the economic contribution of non-resident day trippers by the levy of a daily fee and by encouraging them to use Ontario tourism based accommodations while at the same time discouraging those who were not prepared to contribute to the Ontario based economy. It may be necessary over the course of this plan to expand the application of this technique in the southern zones of this district, however, data

on the use of these zones by non-resident day trippers from the United States will be necessary. Therefore, this tactic will not be implemented in the first five years.

Tactic 4

Review requests for Crown land expansion of existing tourist facility capacity and new tourism proposals with Ministry of Tourism and Recreation on a case by case basis (All Zones).

The development of new tourism starts on Crown Land will not be supported if dependent on additional exploitation of walleye or pike. Additionally, expansion of capacity will not be supported on Crown Land in Zones 16, 17 and 18 unless harvest reductions of walleye and pike can be achieved through some sort of negotiated process. All requests for expansion will be thoroughly reviewed in consultation with the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation and the proponent. This includes proposals for outposts, boat caches, lodges and houseboats.

Tactic 5

Establish a closed season for northern pike during their spawning period on Eagle Lake. Close April 15 to open 3rd Saturday in May (Zone 16).

Because of the current high harvest rate it is essential that large mature fish be protected. This season is the same as that which exists for walleye, therefore it will make enforcement easier. This tactic will have some effect on traditional fishing practices of both resident and tourist industry clientele but it is necessary in order to maintain quality angling for northern pike.

Tactic 6

Permit cottaging on a case by case basis based on Lake Management Plans. (Zones 18 and 22)

Over the next five years Crown Land cottaging will be focussed near communities and will be confined to the south part of Zone 18 and Zone 22 on 12 candidate lakes. Road access and availability of services were considerations in the selection of candidate lakes. The implementation schedule lists the specific lakes within these zones which are to be considered for cottaging.

Three lakes (Eagle, Augite and Lift Lakes) have been deleted from the original D.L.U.G. list as a result of more refined information being available from the fisheries management planning exercise. The Dryden D.L.U.G.'s will be amended to reflect this.

Prior to the development of any crown cottage lot subdivision, a lake management plan will be prepared. Final approval for cottaging is dependent on the outcome of these lake planning studies. Through this planning process specific fisheries concerns with habitat and fish harvest will be dealt with for each lake.

Tactic 7

Work with the tourism industry to develop management techniques to reduce harvest on a lake by lake basis. (All Zones)

Encourage voluntary harvest reduction programs such as catch and release fisheries. Implement initially as voluntary outfitter policies on selected district lakes. Following pre-assessment to determine suitable lakes, they may be placed in legislation following the first 5 year period of the plan as specific catch and release only fisheries.

This tactic can also be used on commercial outpost or boat cache lakes whereby the tourist industry shares the primary responsibility for maintaining the quality of the fishery by

reducing angling pressure and harvest accordingly. Specific lakes with overharvest problems related primarily to boat caches appear in the implementation schedule.

Tactic 8

Promote the recreational aspects of sportfishing. (All Zones)

The success of this tactic is dependent on the anglers acceptance of a change in fishing ethics. The percentage of anglers who practice catch and release fishing is growing steadily. More education is needed to encourage more anglers to limit their kill instead of killing their limit in order to ensure good quality fishing for future generations. Additional tactics promoting recreational angling will be implemented by all districts in the region and may even have provincial overtones. The tourist industry could be a very effective agent in promoting recreational fishing by promoting catch and release.

Tactic 9

Implement slot size restrictions for walleye on an experimental basis. In Eagle Lake (Zone 16) all walleye from 40 cm. (15.5") to 50 cm. (19.5") total length will be released. In Zone 14 all walleye from 50 cm (19.5") to 65 cm (25.5") total length will be released. (Zone 14)

This management technique has the potential to enhance the quality of the fishery both in numbers of fish and in size available to anglers. On Eagle Lake (Zone 16) it will result in a reduction of harvest of brood stock and should enhance reproduction by protecting these mature individuals. This will work in concert with Tactic 1. By working together, the tourist industry and the residents will be able to enhance the quality of the walleye which has declined in recent years. In Zone 14 the waters are deeper, clearer and less productive for walleye. Their numbers are considerably lower in these waters relative to more typical turbid walleye lakes. Large fish are often found

but they are vulnerable to anglers and are fished down quickly. This slot tactic will sustain excellent trophy angling opportunities and protect prime breeders.

Tactic 10

Implement a single barbless hook regulation (Zone 14)

A single hook is defined as a hook with one eye but with one, two or three hooks, (e.g. a treble hook would still be a single hook). Barbless means barbs removed or not present.

Tactic 11

Enhance public education through the development of brochures, seminars and programs.

This tactic would be implemented through joint co-operation of all districts in the region. It would also involve providing more technical advice to specific groups to assist them in maintaining or improving the quality of the fisheries they utilize. A video cassette promoting recreational aspects of sportfishing and featuring catch and release methodology should be prepared by the MNR for distribution to all interested user groups. The tourist industry has expressed interest in this.

Tactic 12

Establish self-sustaining walleye stocks in specific lakes through adult transfers. (Zones 13, 17 and 18).

There is some potential for increasing the number of walleye lakes through adult transfers. While this tactic does not directly reduce the harvest of walleye it will help to create some additional angling opportunities and thereby help to distribute some angling pressure away from heavily fished waters. Some candidate lakes have already been identified for walleye introductions and are shown in the implementation schedule.

These lakes will have to be evaluated to determine their suitability for this program. Ideally they should be barren of walleye and possess a suitable forage base and spawning facilities. This technique has proven to be successful in establishing walleye fisheries. Stocking with eggs or late summer fingerlings has met with limited success. The district would seek volunteer assistance from interested groups to help with this program.

Tactic 13

Promote the use of alternative species through the use of promotional literature, seminars and fish derbies, etc.

(All Zones)

This tactic would be implemented through joint co-operation of all districts in the region. It would also involve providing more technical advice to specific groups to assist them in maintaining or improving the quality of the fisheries they use.

Smallmouth bass, perch, sauger and whitefish are underutilized by anglers. It is good management to harvest bass, perch and sauger where they co-exist with walleye to prevent the expansion of these species at the expense of the walleye and to redirect angling pressure. These species can be utilized as shore lunches to offset the harvest of walleye.

This tactic is most appropriate in Zones 15, 16, 17 and 18 (including Eagle Lake) wherever smallmouth bass, sauger and perch are present. Some lakes containing bass are Cedar, Centrefire, Perrault, Cliff, Wabaskang and the Indian Lake Chain in Zone 18, Eagle Lake (Zone 16), Manitoweg, Johnar and Noonan (Zone 15), most of the lakes in Zone 17 and Jackfish Lake in Zone 22.

Tactic 14

Plan the location of resource extraction roads by input into road planning to direct access roads to underutilized lakes. (Zone 18)

This is a more effective way of increasing angling opportunities than stocking. Put and take fisheries for salmonids (brook trout and rainbow trout) is costly and must be ongoing since they do not reproduce naturally here. Permitting increased access in Zone 18 is consistent with D.L.U.G.. Although opportunities for increasing access are not plentiful in this zone, it is our intention to increase angling opportunities for residents of the area whenever possible. Assessments will be conducted and lake surveys utilized to determine candidate lakes for this tactic.

Environmental Quality

1. Problem/Issue

Habitat loss and degradation is of vital concern to the fisheries in all zones. The beaver population has increased over the last three or four decades and associated dams and debris are chronic problems and a threat to walleye spawning. They are believed to have caused the extinction of specific spawning populations in Gilbert Creek on Eagle Lake (Zone 16) and McKenzie Creek (Zone 17). Resource extraction activities such as mining and timber harvesting, power dams which interfere with natural water flows and levels, and shoreline development can all be contributors to habitat loss and degradation.

Strategy A

Identify, protect, enhance and/or rehabilitate aquatic habitats.

Successful application of this strategy eliminates most of the need for stocking and assures reproduction from genetically adapted stock. This meets the management objective of maintaining self-sustaining populations.

Tactic 1

Continue to provide input into resource extraction and development proposals using appropriate guidelines i.e. Guidelines for Protection of Fish Habitat.

This system appears to be working well. Major importance is placed on road locations, stream crossings, shoreline development or disturbance and erosion control.

Tactic 2

Rehabilitate degraded fish habitats through MNR and public involvement programs such as Community Fisheries Involvement (CFIP). (All Zones)

Dryden District has been very active since May 1979 in co-operative walleye habitat enhancement projects and has conducted at least 20 various projects to date, including the CFIP projects. This tactic will be applied to all zones but is more applicable to Zones 16, 17 and 18.

Tactic 3

Continue to work with appropriate company authorities to manage water flows to provide for optimum water level conditions during spawning periods for walleye and pike.

This tactic applies to Zone 17 (Wainwright Dam), Zone 16 (Eagle Lake Dam) and Zone 18 (Forest Lake Dam and Thunder Lake Dam).

Water level fluctuations play an important part in the success or failure of specific year classes. Water drawdown must be avoided prior to and immediately following the spawning period for walleye, pike and musky, which usually occurs sometime between mid April and mid June. To accommodate late spawning years and

allow for hatching of eggs, drawdown should not occur between April 10 and June 30. There are current agreements with operators of district power dams to manage for optimum water levels which recognize the requirements for fish management. The district will work closely with the operators of the dam facilities to maintain optimum levels for fisheries management purposes.

Tactic 4

Continue with an expanded aquatic habitat inventory program.
(All Zones).

The Aquatic Habitat Inventory Program will be continued and possibly expanded to obtain basic information required in order to ensure habitat protection is provided in development proposals or other resource plans. This program involves the collection of baseline data on lakes and it may be expanded to include rivers and streams over the course of this plan. In the meantime, stream spawning sites will continue to be identified and monitored. Warmwater lakes have been identified by zone as requiring aquatic habitat inventories within the short term and appear in the implementation schedule. The mercator grid numbering system for Dryden District is used for unnamed lakes. Some inventories have to be updated. Lakes that are in the proposed timber harvest area as identified in timber management planning are highest in priority.

Tactic 5

Beaver dam removal on known walleye spawning creeks. (All Zones).

Some of the better known problem areas are Kekekwa Creek, Niven Creek, Wawapus Creek, Barren Brook, Napish Creek and Gilbert Creek in Zone 16 and McKenzie Creek in Zone 17.

The beaver population has increased over the last 3 or 4 decades with some detrimental effects on the walleye spawning success in some sites. Former spawning runs such as Gilbert Creek (Zone 16) and McKenzie Creek (Zone 17) which were productive as late as the 1960's are now unproductive.

Tactic 6

Increase public awareness about the value of fish habitat through brochures and seminars with client groups and companies.

Tactic 7

Identify shoreline aquatic habitat in detail on all larger district lakes with significant patented land such as Eagle, Wabigoon, Cedar, Perrault, Indian Lake Chain, etc..

Conflicts

1. Problem/Issue

Conflicts can occur between users when in actual or perceived competition for the fisheries resource.

These conflicts usually occur between commercial fishermen, tourist outfitters and anglers. Public consultation related to the Background Information and Optional Management Strategies document identifies the actual conflicts between the commercial fishermen and other users to be minimal.

Conflicts can also occur within a user group such as resident and non-resident anglers or between resident anglers and the tourist industry. Conflicts between resident anglers and the tourist industry are often related to road access. The tourist industry feels that direct road access can be detrimental to various aspects of the recreational opportunities which they provide i.e. remote, wilderness type experience with quality fishing. While many resident anglers favour direct access to all lakes, many

also wish to preserve remote quality fishing areas which offer a variety of experiences such as portaging, canoeing or fly-in fisheries with aesthetically pleasing settings.

Remote areas are managed for the benefit of all users.

Strategy A

Continue to minimize and reduce conflicts between users. It is recognized that not all conflicts can be eliminated.

Tactic 1

Regulate non-resident camping and angling through continuing use of **restricted camping zones**. (Potentially in all zones where problems exist or may arise, Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19).

Restricted non-resident camping has resolved most of the problems and issues that were identified in recent years such as over crowding by non-residents on campsites on lakes which are popular with resident anglers.

Tactic 2

Reserve areas for remote angling opportunities. (All of Zone 19 and specific areas of Zones 3 and 21).

Established areas for remote angling opportunities appear in the foldout map in the back cover pocket.

Most of the district lakes are now accessible, especially the larger ones. It is desirable to have some remote wilderness type angling experiences available. While this tactic protects remote tourism values it also provides opportunities for those who wish to participate in portage, canoe or fly-in fishing experiences.

A previous tactic (Sportfish Angling Quality, Problem 1, Tactic 2, Page 43) will provide for access to additional lakes by influencing the location of resource extraction roads. A similar tactic appears also under lake trout.

Tactic 3

Ensure that tourist operators are aware that this ministry is interested in managing for remote quality fishing experiences for all anglers.

The tourist industry, as primary users with an investment interest, have an obligation to take an active part in managing these lakes for quality by implementing camp policies designed to limit the kill. Annual meetings between the tourist operators, the MNR and the MTR will keep all aware of possible conflicts.

Public Awareness and Scientific Knowledge

1. Problem/Issue

Scientific knowledge or data related to fisheries productivity, characteristics of resource uses, fish stocking and long term species interactions should be improved.

Strategy A

Improve the fisheries harvest information base.

There is a need to further quantify harvest and supply.

Tactic 1

Conduct lake or zone specific surveys or population studies.

Design studies to quantify harvest levels, population dynamics and the distribution of angling pressure with emphasis on identifying the influence of existing programs such as the Crown Land Recreation Program. (All Zones as required)

Co-operative studies between the MNR, the tourism industry and the MTR should be investigated.

Tactic 2

Refine information on angler numbers and fish harvest using information from recent surveys that are in the process of being analysed.

The 1985 Provincial Angler Survey has been conducted and is being analysed. When this information is available it will be used to refine angler numbers and harvest for the district.

3.3.2 LAKE TROUT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE, TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

Management Objective

To maximize high quality recreational angling opportunities while maintaining self-sustaining populations.

Our goal is to manage this sensitive species solely for the purpose of recreational angling; to enhance quality and de-emphasize harvest and to optimize the economic value associated with the angling opportunities in consideration of an acceptable balance between resident and tourist use.

The lake trout are extremely sensitive to exploitation due to their unique biological characteristics and the limnological characteristics of the lakes in which they exist. Harvest levels must provide for regeneration of the species, therefore, allowing for maximum harvest is not indicated in the objective. Allowing for maximum harvest of lake trout may not provide maximum economic and social benefits. It is the intent to maximize angling opportunities within the context of a high quality recreational experience i.e. the opportunity to catch large size fish.

Trout sensitivity and importance in relation to economic and social benefits is recognized in the objective by managing solely for angling opportunities.

Lake Trout Target

Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 31,700 kilograms per year while meeting the demand for opportunities of 32,900 angler days.

The allowable yield for lake trout is 31,700 kgs. per year. This is a biological harvest limit below which quality angling and the stability of the trout population can be assured. The projected

demand for lake trout angling opportunities to the year 2000 is 32,900 angler days. Current and projected harvest to the year 2000 exceeds the allowable yield on a district wide basis but is more serious on specific lakes. This district will maintain angling opportunities and strive to reduce the lake trout harvest to below the allowable yield. Recommended management tactics are designed to reduce the overall harvest while maintaining angler opportunities.

Innovative management techniques such as catch and release and utilization of alternative species such as smallmouth bass as described in the previous section under sport fish applies to lake trout as well. The district plans to manage for the forecasted increase in non-resident anglers because of the desire to enhance the economy of the community. The district intends to focus non-resident growth within the existing tourism infrastructure. This approach is supported by the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. In order to accommodate this increase in angling opportunities it will be necessary for the industry to work with the district to find innovative techniques which will handle the increased clientele while at the same time lowering the harvest of trout.

Lake Trout Problems and Issues

Angling Quality

1. Problem/Issue

Current and projected harvest of lake trout exceeds the allowable yield by about 23% on a district wide basis. This is too high to sustain quality which offers a broad size range of fish including opportunities for trophies.

In Eagle Lake (Zone 16) the current lake trout harvest exceeds the allowable yield by approximately 100%. Overharvest of lake trout is also acute in specific lakes in zones 3, 16, 21, 14 and 19 and in the west portion of Zone 18, west of Highway 105. Non-residents take about 65% of the lake trout harvest mainly in

the open water season. Resident use is highest in Zones 21 (Stormy, Boyer, Wapagesi, Washeibemaga, Seggemak Lake, etc.); Zone 19 (Anishinabi and Wine Lakes); Zone 14 (Winnange, Crabclaw and Manomin Lakes) and Zone 3 (Upper Manitou, Teggau and Green Lake). Some small trout lakes are fished only occasionally. Resident use is high in winter.

A reduction in harvest to below the allowable yield is necessary to provide for quality angling opportunities.

Strategy A

Reduce the harvest of lake trout to below the level of allowable yield.

The existing level of harvest is too high. In order to maintain or enhance quality we must adopt a strategy designed to kill fewer fish while maintaining the opportunity to go fishing.

Tactic 1

Non-residents of Canada fishing for lake trout must be accommodated at an Ontario commercial base of operation (campgrounds, motels, tourist lodges, outposts, etc.) or be an owner of real property. (All Zones)

This tactic is designed to reduce the harvest of lake trout by non-residents who make a relatively small contribution (campers and day trippers). This will have the benefit of providing additional tourism opportunities for existing tourist operators and may spread the angling pressure out over the entire season more evenly. This tactic would be implemented in all zones. This tactic requires pre and post assessment to evaluate the benefits to the tourist industry.

Tactic 2

Reduce the catch and possession limit to two trout for non-residents and residents. (All Zones)

This tactic is expected to result in a considerable reduction in harvest while maintaining angling opportunities. At this time the district feels there is no need to shorten seasons if this tactic is acceptable. However, it will be necessary to monitor the harvest to ensure that the harvest is being reduced and the quality is being maintained.

The district may also consider a non-resident tag which entitles the angler to a specified but limited number of lake trout per year. Seasons and daily catch and possession limits would still apply. Further consultation would be necessary for implementation. This would not occur in the first 5 years of this plan.

Tactic 3

Reduce lake trout season on Eagle Lake in spring to close on April 15 and open the 3rd Saturday in May. (Zone 16)

This tactic will protect trout, particularly large ones at a time of year when they are "up" and especially vulnerable. There will be some loss of revenue but most tourist operators in Zone 16 (Eagle Lake) to which it will apply are in favour. Both non-residents and residents will contribute to the harvest reduction on Eagle Lake which is among the most heavily fished of the district lake trout fisheries. Anglers will be able to fish other trout zones, therefore there will be little reduction in opportunities.

Tactic 4

Review requests for expansion of existing tourist facility capacity or new starts with MTR on a case by case basis. (All Zones)

It is not prudent at this time to have additional lake trout harvest on a district wide basis. It is therefore important that

requests for expansion or new starts should be examined closely where trout resources will be effected. It may be possible in certain situations for expansion to occur safely if the tourist industry can assure that additional harvest will not occur. For example, camp policies could be developed which will encourage catch and release, in particular for large specimens, and the use of alternative species such as whitefish.

Tactic 5

Encourage lake trout anglers to fish for alternative species through promotional campaigns which will be implemented through co-operation of all districts in the Ministry of Natural Resources, angler groups and the tourist industry.

Brochures and seminars can be used to promote the sporting and edible qualities of alternative species such as smallmouth bass and whitefish. It is important, though, to work closely with angler groups and the tourist industry to achieve acceptance. Angling for smallmouth bass and whitefish could easily be encouraged in the following lakes, (Zone 18), Blue, Cliff Lake, Cobble Lake (Indian Lake Chain), Thunder, Centrefire; (Zone 16), Eagle Lake; (Zone 3), Upper Manitou, (Zone 22) Jackfish Lake, Melgund, (Zone 21) Peak Lake and (Zone 15) Johnar and Noonan Lakes.

Angling Quality

2. Problem/Issue

Certain bodies of water have unique capability to produce large trophy fish but the quality cannot be maintained without special management approaches which lower harvest.

Eagle Lake has long been a producer of trophy trout. It is still producing large fish but an effort should be made to conserve

this quality fishery while it is still relatively healthy. This lake is being over-exploited with approximately two times the allowable yield being removed annually, mostly large fish. Similarly there are other lakes such as Upper Manitou, Anishnabi, Winnage, Stormy etc. which offer trophy trout but these opportunities need special management in order to maintain them.

Strategy A

Manage certain bodies of water as trophy fisheries by limiting the harvest of fish while maintaining the opportunity to catch trophies.

Tactic 1

Establish a daily catch limit of one and a possession limit of two trout, only one of which can be over 65 cm (25.5") total length. (Eagle Lake Zone 16).

A 65 cm trout in this zone is approximately 2.3 kg. (5 lbs.). This tactic will reduce the harvest of trout and will also enhance angling quality in terms of the availability of large fish. It will also help to spread those opportunities amongst anglers and assist in maintaining the spawning population. Since few small fish are caught there may be a reproduction problem. This tactic has the support of the Eagle Lake Tourist Outfitters and we will be looking for resident endorsement. The district will be investigating trophy management options with user groups for select lakes in other zones (3, 14, 19, and 21). Some examples of lakes are Upper Manitou (3); Anishnabi (19); Winnage (14) and Stormy (21).

Implementation of this tactic will coincide with a one fish over a certain size proposed for pike and walleye and already in place for musky. This will help promote the concept of a quality fishery for Eagle Lake and others while at the same time helping to assure the long term stability of the sportfishery.

This tactic may result in some mortality involving released fish but recent studies show that average mortality of lake trout is in the range of 15%. A hooking mortality rate of about 15% determined for lake trout in the Great Lakes may be representative of mortality in Ontario lake trout lakes since the study trout were captured between early May and early September at depths ranging from 8 metres to 49 metres. Surface water temperature ranged from 7°C to 24°C and water temperature at depth of hooking ranged from 4°C to 20°C. The temperatures and depth ranges are typical of the stratified lake trout lakes in Ontario.

Tactic 2

Reserve areas for remote quality angling opportunities. (All of Zone 19 and specific areas of Zones 3 and 21).

Established areas for remote angling opportunities appear in Figure 6.

Most of the district lakes are now accessible but it is desirable to protect some of the remaining ones to provide for remote quality angling experiences. In these areas within specific zones roads will be directed away from lakes. The use of the resource extraction roads in these areas will be reviewed to ensure that the use is consistent with the intent of management for remote opportunities. It may be necessary to expand restrictive camping zones for non-residents. Wherever possible, existing remote fly-in angling opportunities in all zones will be protected. Concerns related to road alignment and access will be dealt with utilizing the Timber Management Planning Process and the "Timber Management Guidelines for the Protection of Tourism Values". Remote areas are for the benefit of all users.

Environmental Quality

1. Problem/Issue

Potential loss or degradation of habitat in lake trout lakes.

Lake trout are very sensitive to changes in life history, habitat and water quality. Good spawning habitat on lake trout lakes often covers only a small portion of the lake. On occasion, in the past, this habitat and water quality has been degraded due to natural or man-made causes. This is usually related to cottaging or resource extraction activities. While known occurrences are few in this district it is of continuing concern to fish managers.

The same strategies and tactics identified for Sportfish Problem 1, Environmental Quality will apply to address this problem.
(see page 45)

Strategy B

Protect and rehabilitate habitat to ensure a healthy environment.

Tactic 1

Continue to review land development proposals, resource extraction plans such as timber harvesting and work permits which cover small scale water related projects to ensure habitat protection. Continue to apply the Fish Habitat Protection Guidelines.

Habitat information is gathered through the aquatic habitat inventory program and is used to review the above proposals. Included in land development are proposals for cottage lot development. The district will continue to ensure that cottage development takes place on warm water lakes where inhabiting species are more tolerant of shoreline development. Further, the district is recommending that cottage development be focused in Zone 18 on warm water lakes.

Tactic 2

Identify, protect, enhance, rehabilitate or create lake trout spawning areas wherever necessary. (All Zones)

Rehabilitation of degraded fish habitats can be carried out by MNR or through the MNR Community Fisheries Involvement Program. Canyon Lake in Zone 14 is a possible candidate lake for lake trout habitat enhancement pending further investigation. Some general identification of possible trout spawning shoals has been carried out in Zones 3 and 21. Additionally, similar work in other trout zones is required which will include on site confirmation of spawning activity.

Tactic 3

Continue lake survey program but expand data collection efforts in the areas of population assessment and habitat quantification.

Continue to survey known lake trout lakes. Lake selection is influenced by current and projected timber harvesting operations.

Lakes planned for survey in the next 5 years appear in the implementation schedule.

Public Awareness - Scientific Knowledge

The general public has a good understanding of the sensitivity of lake trout to angling pressure and habitat disturbance.

It is important, though, to encourage more catch and release fishing for lake trout and at the same time it is necessary to gain a better understanding of the effects of release mortality on the overall abundance of lake trout. The district plans to encourage investigations in this area and will make information available to the public when available.

3.3.3 MUSKELLUNGE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

Management Objective

To optimize quality recreational angling opportunities for this species while maintaining naturally reproducing populations.

Muskellunge are in the category of a world class fishery which attracts a lot of enthusiasts. The quality of the fishery, i.e. availability of large size individuals, should continue to be enhanced by de-emphasizing harvest, especially in areas receiving heavy fishing pressure. Muskies are relatively intolerant of heavy fishing pressure and do not compete well with northern pike over the long term. With the exception of the Wabigoon Lake system (Zone 17) the district musky fishery appears stable and healthy. Trophy fish are associated mainly with the large waters such as Eagle, Wabigoon, Upper Manitou and the Indian Lake Chain (Alexandra). Muskies are plentiful in some smaller lakes such as Kekekwa but the average size is small and "keepers" are not plentiful. These lakes with smaller fish present opportunities for experimental management such as catch and release and slot size management. Catch and release is now widely practiced by musky anglers and is the main reason for the general stability of the fishery.

The musky fishery is popular with non-residents and to a lesser extent with residents. Its value to the economy is high because of the time and cost associated with hunting for large trophies.

Musky are managed primarily as a trophy fishery and new regulations have been developed to help ensure that musky populations sustain themselves and continue to provide trophy angling opportunities.

Muskellunge Target

To maintain the harvest below the allowable yield.

This target is estimated at 12,600 kgs. per year and represents the sum of the allowable yield for musky from musky only lakes and 20% of the combined pike and musky yield in waters where they live together. Because yield estimates have not been refined for musky this target is considered a rough estimate. Exploitation rate is expected to be below this figure due to current catch and release practices of musky fishermen, the supporting legislative control (size limits and restrictive catch and possession limits) and management for trophy fisheries. The main objectives are to manage the harvest to minimize the kill, to meet the existing demand for angling opportunities and to manage largely as a trophy fishery.

Angling Quality

1. Problem/Issue

Muskellunge are generally not abundant in most lakes and they are sensitive to exploitation, particularly in lake systems where they co-exist with northern pike.

Muskellunge occur in Zones 3, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22. They are actively sought by avid non-resident anglers and to a lesser extent by residents. Provincial regulations have been recently developed to help sustain musky populations and the trophy opportunities they provide. A daily catch of 1 fish and a possession limit of 2 is now in place along with a new minimum size limit of 86 cm. (34") with a 102 cm. (40") on specific lakes such as Eagle and Wabigoon (Zones 16 and 17). The district recommends some additional tactics to enhance trophy management.

Strategy

Manage musky as a trophy species but recognize that some smaller bodies of water may not produce legal size or trophy specimens.
(All Zones)

Tactic 1

Non-residents of Canada fishing for musky must be accommodated at an Ontario commercial base of operation (campgrounds, motels, tourist lodges, outpost camps, etc.) or be an owner of real property. (All Zones)

This tactic is designed to reduce the harvest of musky by non-residents who make a relatively small contribution (campers and day trippers). This will have the benefit of providing additional tourism opportunities for existing tourist operators. This tactic would be implemented in all Zones. This tactic requires pre and post assessment to evaluate the benefits to the tourist industry.

Tactic 2

Develop a tag system for muskellunge which would permit an angler to catch and possess 2 fish per year. (All Zones)

This is consistent with the management philosophy of managing for a limited trophy kill. The daily catch limit of 1 fish would still apply to ensure that the trophy opportunities would be equitably distributed amongst anglers.

Tactic 3

Collect and receive biological data on other large lakes to ensure that the new minimum size limit regulations protect muskellunge populations and trophy opportunities. (Zones 3 and 18)

The new size regulations which are now in place across the district are viewed as positive progressive management and widely endorsed by the angling fraternity. However, other larger lakes such as Upper Manitou may benefit from a larger minimum size limit of 102 cm (40").

Tactic 4

Develop a management approach for smaller lakes (Zone 15 and 18) where legal size musky (34") are rare or absent.

This district will study the feasibility of allowing anglers to catch and harvest a modest number of edible, non-trophy size fish from small lakes. At this point a slot size would appear to be a useful management technique. Under this approach, anglers would be required to release fish above and below a certain size. This is referred to as a harvest slot and its purpose is to enhance growth and to utilize a limited number of those fish. Several lakes which might be appropriate for this management are Kekekwa and Pincher (Zone 15) and Adam, Fluke and Redbluff (Zone 18).

2. Problem/Issue

The musky fishery on Wabigoon Lake and adjoining waters is in a state of pending collapse. (Zone 17)

The Wabigoon Lake musky fishery is in a state of pending collapse according to recent studies conducted by the Royal Ontario Museum in co-operation with OMNR. Lack of recruitment was identified as the main problem. Little recruitment has occurred in the last 20 years. There is a small population of mostly old fish. Since that study some recruitment was identified in 1987. Several small musky were reported caught and released by anglers and some were confirmed by MNR staff. Most appeared to be yearlings. There is a need to protect the remaining spawners and the limited reproduction recently noted. It takes approximately 20 years for musky to reach trophy size in Wabigoon Lake.

Strategy

Rehabilitate the musky fishery on Wabigoon Lake.

Tactic 1

Implement a catch and release only musky fishery until there is a recovery of the population. (Zone 17)

While the fishery is operating as a catch and release fishery the district plans to supplement the stock with either hatchery reared fish or adult transfers. Additionally, the district is committed to evaluating the need for spawning habitat enhancement. Tourist operators on the lake recently have shown support and agreed to assist the district with these programs where possible. Also they have agreed to work with their clients to ensure the success of catch and release. This tactic will be implemented as soon as possible.

Environmental Quality

1. Problem/Issue

A large number of musky waters in the Dryden District are close to the community of Dryden and are potentially subject to shoreline development activities associated with cottages and permanent residences. Additionally, other lakes are subject to shoreline activity associated with timber harvesting and other resource extraction activities. Muskellunge are extremely sensitive to habitat disturbances, particularly changes in aquatic vegetation which they use as spawning and nursery areas, and changes in water levels during spawning and hatching.

Strategy

Protect musky habitat. (Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 22)

Tactic 1

Identify critical musky habitat and provide input to all land development proposals, resource extraction plans such as Timber Management Plans, water level control plans and the work permit which is used for small scale shoreline projects.

Musky lakes should be treated as sensitively as lake trout lakes and should be provided maximum habitat protection. (Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22)

Tactic 2

Improve our knowledge about musky habitat by continuing to support musky research programs in Dryden District.

The Provincial Musky Committee in 1982-83 indicated that top priorities for musky research were in the areas of habitat needs and recruitment. Since that time the Royal Ontario Museum in co-operation with OMNR have been involved in research in these fields mainly on Eagle Lake (Zone 16), Wabigoon Lake (Zone 17) and the Indian Lake Chain (Zone 18).

Public Awareness and Scientific Knowledge

1. Problem/Issue

The introduction of pike into musky waters usually results in a decrease in the musky population.

Recent studies indicate that musky compete poorly with pike for spawning sites and in the early stages of life.

Strategy

Ensure musky lakes are protected from introductions of pike.

Tactic

Enhance public education regarding the problems associated with introducing pike into musky waters through the use of seminars and brochures.

3.3.4 COMMERCIAL FOOD FISH MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE, TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

Management Objective

To maintain a viable industry, by encouraging the harvest of commercial fish under the quota management system, where it is biologically, economically and socially acceptable.

Commercial fisheries in Dryden District are all targeted to lake whitefish with small quotas assigned for sportfish (walleye, pike and lake trout). Other commercially harvested species are burbot (ling), sucker (mullet) and cisco. Most are fall fisheries with some lakes being fished only every 2 years. Total market value in 1985 was \$65,015. The Eagle Lake fishery generated 68 % of this value. The commercial fish industry in Dryden, although small, provides some seasonal employment opportunities. Over the last decade the commercial fish market has been depressed which has resulted in a reduction in harvest to below the quota level. Also, there has been a growing demand for sport species by anglers. Recreational sport fisheries generate significantly larger economic and social benefits from the same sportfish than the commercial fishery when tourism is considered.

Commercial Food Fish Target

To sustain an annual harvest of 76,900 kg. of whitefish.

To reduce quotas of sport species, including lake trout, to zero.

This target of 76,900 kgs. of whitefish is the sum of all existing quotas for lake whitefish. This species is the primary target species of all commercial fisheries in the district. Small quotas of sportfish which are provided to the commercial fisheries are not intended as a target but are provided to cover the incidental catch. Traditionally commercial fishermen have been encouraged to fish cleanly and not target on sport species.

Conflicts

1. Problem/Issue

There is competition for limited sportfish resources among commercial fishermen, anglers and the tourist industry.

Sportfish generate larger social and economic benefits through the recreational fishery (resident angling and tourism). The harvest of whitefish is both desirable and acceptable to fisheries managers and the public.

While the amount of sportfish under quota to commercial fishermen is small the harvest is perceived as a large problem by the public. The total amount of sportfish under quota on commercially fished lakes is 2,145 kgs. of walleye, 3,855 kgs. of northern pike and 138 kgs. of lake trout. Public concern is highest for fisheries operating on Eagle Lake (Zone 16), Wabaskang (Zone 18), Wabigoon, Butler and Dinorwic (Zone 17).

Strategy A

Reduce the commercial harvest of sportfish. (All Zones where commercial fishing occurs)

The economic importance of sportfish species, through the provision of recreational angling opportunities, is recognized. Because of this, and because the current commercial harvest of sportfish is small, the conflict will be further reduced to a minimum by this strategy.

Tactic 1

OMNR purchase of sportfish quotas including lake trout.

The district would like to move quickly on lake trout quotas but is prepared to deal with walleye and pike as opportunities present themselves, which will provide the industry time to make

further adjustments in their fishing production. It has always been the districts intention to reduce incidental catches to zero particularly for lake trout.

Tactic 2

Direct fishermen to other gear types and seasons. (All Zones where commercial fishing occurs)

The district intends to encourage more use of live entrapment gear and fishing at specific times of the year to ensure incidental sportfish harvest does not occur.

Fishing in the fall has been known to produce better prices for whitefish. This tactic will also help to minimize conflicts between commercial fishermen and sport fishermen. This tactic will require on site monitoring to ensure its effectiveness. It will also require some experimentation with gear and will be implemented through the licence conditions.

Public Awareness and Scientific Knowledge

1. Problem/Issue

Conflicts occur between the sport fishermen and commercial fishermen over the harvest of sport species.

These will be significantly reduced by eliminating quotas for these species and also by ensuring that commercial fishing operators are not taking them incidentally (Tactics 1 and 2 pages 68 and 69). However, an effort will be required to convey these

measures to the sport fishing fraternity while providing them with other information about commercial operations.

Strategy

Improve public perceptions concerning the commercial fish industry.

Tactic

Using seminars and user group meetings, convey information on commercial catch statistics and operational activities to increase the understanding of anglers and the tourist industry.

2. Problem/Issue

Whitefish harvest by commercial fishermen needs to be monitored over time to be able to respond to changing stock abundance.

On Eagle Lake the quota and harvest of whitefish are above the allowable yield but the stocks appear healthy.

Strategy

Improve information on the abundance and harvest of whitefish.

Tactic 1

Simplify the commercial fish reporting form.

Tactic 2

Enforce conditions of licence including the submission of timely complete and accurate reports.

Tactic 3

Conduct regular commercial catch sampling.

3.3.5 COMMERCIAL BAITFISH MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE, TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

Management Objective

To provide for the harvest of baitfish for use by the sportfishery recognizing the overall social and economic benefits primarily generated through the maintenance of a viable baitfish industry.

Generally the baitfish industry has indicated satisfaction with the management of baitfish in the district. The production and harvest of baitfish in the District seems adequate to meet the demand. The industry provides some seasonal and part time employment and services district anglers with a good supply of bait. The district therefore intends to continue to manage on the basis of the block licencing system implemented several years ago in the Northwestern Region of the OMNR.

Target

To provide for the annual harvest of 183,000 dozen baitfish by the year 2000.

This target represents the projected harvest required to supply the sportfishery based on projected increases in angler numbers to the year 2000. The district feels that production from baitfish waters can sustain this harvest.

Environmental Quality

1. Problem/Issue

Timber roads and harvesting practices may impact on baitfish lakes.

The harvesting of timber along shores of baitfish lakes may influence the production of bait but there is a lack of knowledge

regarding this relationship. Resource access roads may increase the accessibility of lakes and thereby increase the chances of introduction of incompatible species and the chances of bait being stolen from traps. At the same time, the efficiency of the baitfish operation can be increased with better access.

The introduction of wild rice may also affect baitfish.

Strategy A

Ensure adequate protection of baitfish lakes.

Tactic 1

Protection of baitfish lakes to be negotiated case by case during timber management planning.

The baitfish industry shares responsibility for protecting the baitfish resource. Responsibility includes the identification of baitfish lakes so that road access and timber harvesting can be managed to protect baitfish values as a part of the open planning process for integrated resource management.

Tactic 2

Continue to consult bait fishermen prior to the authorization of wild rice introductions.

Conflicts

1. Problem/Issue

Demand for baitfish licences exceeds block availability.

The current number of baitfish dealers and commercial bait fishermen is more than adequate to meet the needs of the sportfishery of the district. Prior to the baitfish block licencing system there were conflicts among fishermen for access

to baitfish waters. The block system reduced many of these conflicts by allocating specific areas to fishermen and providing them with a sufficient number of lakes from which to harvest fish. Presently there is a limited demand for new licences but all the blocks are allocated. It is the districts opinion that the industry is stable in terms of supply and demand, a view which is supported by the industry.

Strategy A

Maintain the current system of licencing.

A procedure has been developed for the purpose of managing commercial baitfish in the Northwestern Region and is followed in Dryden District. The following tactics are compatable with this procedure.

Tactic 1

Allow new entrants into the baitfish industry through transfer of whole licences or blocks or when licences become available through attrition.

New entrants will be allowed to enter the industry through transfers from current licencees or block holders. They will also be allowed to obtain a licence when licenced areas revert to the crown voluntarily or are cancelled. This tactic will permit a limited number of individuals to enter the industry periodically. Additionally, it is common practice for them to purchase an existing business at which time licences will be transferred providing all licencing procedure requirements are met by the licensee.

2. Problem/Issue

In some situations the baitfish industry is unable to satisfy specific tourist operator requirements.

Conflicts can occur in some situations between tourist operators and commercial bait fishermen when the supply of baitfish comes into question. In some remote areas of the district tourist operators feel that bait fishermen are unable to supply their needs. On the other hand, the industry contends that all operators can be supplied.

Strategy A

Maintain current practice of ensuring that the tourist operator has access to a supply of baitfish.

This would appear to be the only logical strategy since the availability of baitfish is generally an integral part of the tourism business.

Tactic 1

Provide the forum for communications between the respective industries to work out supply problems.

This tactic would allow the industries to work together to overcome existing supply problems. Resolution of problems requires a firm commitment from both industries to communicate. OMNR will initiate meetings and monitor the effectiveness of this tactic.

Tactic 2

Issue baitfish commercial licences for select bodies of water only when the operator can demonstrate proof of an inability to be supplied.

It is the districts intention to limit these types of licences to exceptional cases. Recently the district has been able to resolve some of these supply problems and thereby reduce the number of individually licenced waters.

Public Awareness and Scientific Knowledge

1. Problem/Issue

More information on baitfish production is required.

Better information is required on the production of baitfish and the factors which may influence it such as the removal of shoreline cover (trees), water level fluctuations, wild rice production and fertilization and harvest levels.

Baitfish lakes are typically shallow and often devoid of predatory species. They are also quite variable in terms of species composition. Generally, more scientific information is required to improve management of baitfish waters.

Strategy

Improve the district data base to assist the industry and the OMNR in managing the resource.

Tactic 1

Encourage scientific studies on baitfish production through university research programs.

The district would like to encourage baitfish industry involvement in these programs similar to their participation in the recent project "Experimental Enhancement of the Commercial Baitfish Industry in Northwestern Ontario" which was supported by NORDA (Northern Ontario Rural Development Agreement).

Tactic 2

Utilize lake surveys to identify lakes with baitfish potential and make information available to the industry.

Foster co-operative industry information exchange.

Tactic 3

Provide the forum for effective communications with the industry so as to strengthen and improve the Ministry-Industry relationship.

This tactic should assist in providing increased accuracy of harvest information (annual reports) and additional information on lakes fished. It will be accomplished through annual meetings with the Northwestern Ontario Bait Fishermen's Association and with local bait fishermen.

2. Problem/Issue

Occasional occurrences of summer mortality.

Problems are mainly related to overcrowding and/or equipment malfunction.

This concern is minimal and is applicable only to a few dealers. All new baitfish dealers in this district must meet specific criteria for holding facilities before being granted a licence. The need is always there to provide information and enforce district policies regarding holding facilities.

Strategy A

Increase awareness by dealers of the necessity to have adequate holding facilities.

Tactic 1

Provide baitfish dealers with information on methods of upgrading their holding facilities.

OMNR publication "About Baitfish in Ontario", 1976 is an excellent booklet but is currently out of print. This should be revived by the government or made available to the private sector.

Tactic 2

Continue district policy of standard holding facilities requirements for all new entrants.

Tactic 3

Do not reissue licences where the licensee has not made adequate effort to reduce mortality by upgrading holding facilities.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 GENERAL BACKGROUND

The "Strategic Land Use Plan, Northwestern Ontario" and the "Dryden District Land Use Guidelines" cover the period to the year 2000. This fisheries management plan also provides the direction for fisheries management activities within the Dryden District to the year 2000. Throughout that period all activities should be consistent with the strategies and tactics which have been selected to achieve the stated targets and objectives.

Generally, strategies identified in this fisheries management plan will be implemented through:

- the preparation of five year implementation schedules;
- programs and projects approved and funded under the Ministry of Natural Resources work planning process;
- input to or participation in other programs carried out by the Ministry of Natural Resources;
- co-operative efforts with local organizations, associations or private interest groups;
- review and approval of work plans and proposals from industries, municipal government and other government agencies.

This section of the draft fisheries management plan will establish the first five year (1987 - 1991) implementation schedule. Annual work plans will be developed from the priorities established in this implementation schedule. The annual work plan will address both the cost and timing for the implementation of tactics.

This schedule will be updated annually to continually provide for a 5 year operating planning framework. The implementation schedule for subsequent 5 year periods will be formally prepared in 1991 and 1996 respectively. These schedules will be subject to public notice and review and must be approved by the District Manager and Regional Director. Should any significant modifications or revisions to the implementation schedule or fisheries management plan be required, these will also be subject to public review and the Ministry approval process.

Projects to be undertaken during the next five year period have been identified according to those which can be completed under existing funding and those which would require additional funding. Many of these management activities under current funding levels would be completed by permanent staff supplemented by seasonal employees. Additional funding will be available as a result of the implementation of the Ontario resident angling licence.

Routine planning and administrative functions have not been included. Similarly, enforcement activities are not detailed as they have been summarized in a separate enforcement plan for the Dryden District. It should be realized however that many strategies and tactics identified in this plan, as well as existing fisheries legislation, requires enforcement that will be carried out on an ongoing basis.

4.2 IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE 1987 - 1991

The first five year (1987 - 1991) fisheries management implementation schedule follows. It should be recognized that all fisheries projects are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. Each project will fall into one of three categories. It can be exempted from the Act by an Order in Council, approved by the Minister of the Environment. An example is supplemental fish stocking.

Projects which are not exempt are either subject to a Class Environmental Assessment or a Individual E.A..

The projects are proposed and potential impacts to the environment and their alternatives are assessed. The proposals are tabled for public response at which time the final evaluation and selection of the project, or an alternative, are made. Upon drafting a final project plan it is once again presented for public response and the details are finalized. The project is then implemented and monitored with respect to environmental quality guidelines.

Compliance with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act may influence the achievement of specific tactics identified in this plan.

Generally, fisheries management programs over the next five year period will focus on assessment and quality enhancement of the recreational sport fishery. Of priority during the first 5 year implementation period is the need to strengthen the data base on sportfish harvests particularly walleye, pike and lake trout. Also, the district will be conducting pre and post assessment of the various management tactics to determine their effectiveness in dealing with the identified problems or issues. Many tactics involving major changes in regulations are designed to reduce the harvest of walleye, pike and trout and improve the quality of the fishery. Such changes in regulations will be co-ordinated on a provincial basis.

Population assessment may involve a number of different operational programs including creel census projects, index netting and spawning studies.

Aquatic habitat inventory programs (lake surveys) will be continued and may be enhanced depending on funding. These include unsurveyed lakes and lakes requiring resurvey. Most of

the unsurveyed lakes are small and difficult to access by road or fixed wing aircraft. Survey costs will increase sharply if helicopters are necessary to access these small lakes.

A few small lakes will continue to be stocked to provide artificial (put and take) brook trout fisheries. These lakes will be assessed to determine utilization and harvest by anglers.

Fisheries habitat will be maintained by continuing to provide input into resource extraction and development proposals and continuing to monitor water levels, beaver dams, etc..

Projects which relate to specific management tactics that are not identified in the first (1987 - 1991) implementation schedule will be identified in subsequent implementation schedules.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

STRATEGY:		
Reduce the harvest of walleye and pike to below the allowable yield level.		Walleye and pike overharvest.
TACTICS:		
- Implement a possession limit of one walleye over 50 cm in a daily limit of six and a possession limit of 1 pike over 70 cm. (27.5") in a daily limit of 6. (Assessment tactics appear in Section (B) Additional Funding).	District wide, all Zones	
- Establish new sanctuaries for the period Apr. 1 to May 31 on specific walleye spawning locations. (NOTE: All sanctuaries will be closed every year except that Midway Bay and Blind Bay will be closed on even numbered years only and Musky Bay and Meridan Bay will be closed on odd numbered years only.	Zone 16 - Eagle Lake, Musky Bay, Meridian Bay, Midway, Blind Bay, One Mile and Two Mile Rapids, Bear Narrows, Osbourne Bay Zone 17 - Nugget Creek, Thunder Creek, Christie Island, and Wabigoon River to Whitefish Rapids Zone 18 - Cedar River (enlarge existing sanctuary), Puzzle Bay on Ord Lake, Perrault Falls on Wabaskang Lake	
- Review requests for Crown Land expansion of existing tourist facility capacity or new starts with MTR case by case.	District wide, all Zones	
- Establish a closed season for northern pike Apr. 15 - 3rd Sat in May.	Eagle Lake, Zone 16	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
TACTICS:		
- Permit cottaging on a number of the following lakes. These 12 lakes in Zones 18 and 22 are candidates for cottaging during the next 5 yrs. (1987-1991) subject to further lake planning studies.	Zones 18 and 22 Zone 18 - Laval Lake, Good Lake, Thaddeus Lake, Affleck Lake, Wauchope Lake, Norse Lake, Walsh Lake, Rosamond Lake, Eye Lake, Redvers Lake. Zone 22 - Avery Lake, Melgund Lake	
- Pre-assessment to determine suitable catch and release or limited harvest lakes.	District wide, all Zones	
- Work with tourism industry to develop management techniques to reduce harvest on a lake by lake basis. (Voluntary tourist outfitter policies on catch and release. Post-assessment to determine effectiveness of tactic.)	District wide, all Zones Zone 14 - Crabclaw Lake Zone 19 - Howard Lake (These lakes were identified as having harvest problems related specifically to commercial boat caches.)	
- Promote the recreational aspects of sportfishing.	District wide, All Zones	
- Assessment to determine suitability of proposed slot sizes for walleye for Zones 14 and 16.	Zones 14 and 16	
- Experimental slot size management for walleye for Eagle Lake (Zone 16) 40 - 50 cm and all Zone 14, 50 - 65 cm. (For additional tactics which can be undertaken with additional funding see part (B) of this appendix.)	Zones 14 and 16	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
- Implement single barbless hook regulation.	Zone 14	
- Assessment to determine final suitability of potential candidate lakes for adult walleye transfers	Zones 17 and 18	
- Establish self- sustaining walleye stocks through adult transfers	Zone 13 - Kenora District lakes Zone 17 - Tobacco Lake Zone 18 - North Hodgins, Wauchope Lake, Affleck Lake, Buller Lake, Rosamond Lake.	
- Assessment of lakes, in areas where roads are proposed, for alternative species.	Zone 18	
- Influence location of resource access roads to access underutilized lakes if opportunity arises.	Zone 18	
- Promote use of alternative species through promotional literature. (Promote use of other species with Tourism Industry as shore lunches.)	District wide, all Zones	

STRATEGY:

Identify, protect, enhance
and/or rehabilitate aquatic
habitats.

Potential habitat
loss or degradation.

TACTICS:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| - Continue to input to
the timber management
planning process and other
resource extraction or
development proposals using
appropriate guidelines for
protection of fish. | District wide, all Zones |
|---|--------------------------|

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
- Continue to manage or work towards managing flows for optimum water levels for fish reproduction.	Zones 16, 17 and 18 Wabigoon Lake, Eagle Lake, Forest Lake, Thunder Lake	
- Conduct aquatic habitat inventory surveys,	Zone 15 - Easter Chicken, Higbee, Mitchell, Mountain, Navimar, Snare, Waterbug, Harper, McKinstry, Moon, Mulcahy, Pincher, Ukik, WE18-02. Zone 17 - Stuart, Gladys. Zone 18 - Beartrack, Elevator, Golder, Little Clay, Pipette, Smith, Wildbull, WF03-04, WF06-01, WF06-08, WF25-09, WF35-05, Adelaid, Canyon, Front, Kimber, Meridian, Ranel, St. Clair, VF55-05, WF04-11, WF06-02, WF25-26, WF36-12, VF55-06, Tay, WF24-17, Angood, Dominick, Glider, Ladysmith, Paiko (Marshall), Smart, Warren, VF55-08, WF06-04, WF25-30, WF04-13, VF94-16, WF35-01, WF24-04. Zone 19 - Burden, Fleming, Inar, VF68-03, VF69-03, Devlin, Gabby, Moore, VF68-13, VF58-08, Donalda, Honest, VF68-02, VF-69-01. Zone 21 - Burning, Kamanatagama, WE37-60, Stormy, Gawiewiagwa, Levit, Twin Narrows, WE37-64, Shongwashu, McKenzie.	
- Increase public awareness about the value of fish habitat.	District wide, all Zones	

STRATEGY:

Minimize conflicts between users.

Conflicts occur between users when competing for fisheries resources

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

TACTICS:		
- Regulate non-resident camping and angling through continuing use of restricted camping zones.	Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19	
- Reserve areas for remote angling opportunities. (Areas are shown on folded map.)	All of Zone 19 Zone 3 - Upper Manitou Lake area, Fisher, Hawkcliff, Teggau Lake area. Zone 21 - Boyer Lake area.	
- Ensure that tourist operators know that remote quality fishing is for all anglers.	All locations where there is remote fishing (see preceding tactic).	
STRATEGY:		
Improve fisheries harvest information base.		Data related to fisheries productivity, characteristics of resource users, fish stocking and long term species interactions should be improved.
TACTICS:		
- Conduct lake or zone specific surveys or population studies.	Zone 16 - Eagle Lake	
- Utilize recent angler survey to refine information on angler numbers and fish harvest.	District wide, all Zones	
STRATEGY:		
Reduce the harvest of lake trout.		Harvest of lake trout exceeds the allowable yield for the district

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

TACTICS:		
- Assess numbers of non-resident lake trout anglers not accommodated at tourist operations.	Zone 16 (Eagle Lake)	
- Non-residents of Canada fishing for lake trout, must be accommodated at an Ontario commercial base of operations (campgrounds, motels, tourist lodges, outposts, etc.) or be an owner of real property. (All Zones) (Assessment tactics appear in Section B Additional Funding.)	All Zones	
- Reduce lake trout catch and possession limit to two. (Assessment tactics appear in Section B Additional Funding.)	All Zones	
- Close lake trout season in spring (Apr. 15 - 3rd Sat in May).	Zone 16	
- Review requests for expansion of existing tourist facilities or new starts with MTR case by case.	All Zones	
- Promote angling for alternative species.	Zone 3 - Upper Manitou Lake Zone 15 - Johnar and Noonan Lakes Zone 16 - Eagle Lake Zone 18 - Blue Lake, Cliff Lake, Indian Lake Chain, Thunder Lake, Centrefire Lake. Zone 21 - Peak Lake Zone 22 - Jackfish Lake, Melgund Lake.	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

STRATEGY:		
Manage certain bodies of water as trophy fisheries.		Certain bodies of water have a unique capability to produce trophy fish but quality cannot be maintained without special management approaches.
TACTICS:		
- Assess number, length and weight of all lake trout harvested from Eagle Lake. (Undertaking this with the present level of funding is conditional on the Eagle Lake tourist operators hiring a biologist.)	Zone 16, Eagle Lake	
- Establish a daily catch limit of one and a possession limit of two lake trout, only one of which can be over 65 cm. (25.5") total length.	Zone 16, Eagle Lake	
STRATEGY:		
Protect and rehabilitate habitat to ensure a healthy environment.		Potential loss or degradation of habitat in lake trout lakes.
TACTICS:		
- Review all land development proposals, applying the guidelines for protection of fish habitat.	All Zones	
- Identify, protect, enhance, rehabilitate or create lake trout spawning areas where necessary.	All Zones	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
<hr/>		
- Continue lake survey program but expand efforts in areas of population assessment and habitat quantification. (Unsurveyed lake trout lakes are scheduled for survey in next 5 years and appear earlier in this appendix.)	All trout zones	
STRATEGY:		
Rehabilitate the musky fishery on the Wabigoon Lake system.	Zone 17	The musky fishery in Wabigoon Lake and adjoining waters is in a state of pending collapse.
TACTICS:		
- Catch and release only for musky until there is a recovery of the population. (During the closure supplementary adult transfers will be conducted.)	Zone 17	
STRATEGY:		
Manage Musky as a trophy species.	All Zones	Muskellunge, like lake trout, are seldom abundant and are sensitive to exploitation.
TACTIC:		
- Implement tags for muskellunge with an annual seasonal possession limit of 2 fish.	All Zones except 17	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
- Non-residents of Canada fishing for musky must be accommodated at an Ontario commercial base of operation (campgrounds, motels, tourist lodges, outposts, etc.) or be an owner of real property. (All Zones)	All Zones	
- Determine other large lakes that would benefit from larger minimum size limit, based on data.	Zones 3, 8 - Upper Manitou, Wabaskang, Cliff, etc..	
- Develop a management approach for smaller musky lakes where legal size musky are rare or absent.	Zones 15 and 18 - Kekekwa and Pincher (Zone 15) Adam, Fluke and Redbluff Lake (Zone 18)	

STRATEGY:

Protect musky habitat.	Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22	Musky are extremely sensitive to habitat disturbances.
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TACTIC:

- Identify critical musky habitat and provide input to all land development proposals, etc.. Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22
- Improve our knowledge of musky habitat by continuing to support musky research programs. Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22

STRATEGY:

Ensure musky lakes are protected from introductions of pike.	Zones 3, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 2	Pike introduced into musky waters usually results in a decrease in muskies.
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TACTIC:

- Enhance public education through seminars and brochures.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

STRATEGY:		
Improve public perceptions concerning commercial fish industry.		Conflicts between sport fishermen and commercial fishermen over the harvest of sport species.
TACTIC:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using meetings etc. convey information on catch statistics and operational activities to increase the understanding of anglers and the tourist industry. 		
STRATEGY:		
Improve information base on the abundance and harvest of whitefish.	All commercially fished zones.	Whitefish harvest by commercial fishermen needs to be monitored over time to be able to respond to changing stock abundance.
TACTIC:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simplify the commercial fish reporting form. - Enforce conditions of licence including submission of timely, complete and accurate reports. - Conduct regular commercial catch sampling. 		
STRATEGY:		
Ensure adequate protection of baitfish lakes.		Timber roads and harvesting practices may impact on baitfish lakes.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

TACTIC:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protection of baitfish lakes to be negotiated case by case during timber management planning. - Continue to consult bait fishermen prior to authorization of wild rice introductions. 		
STRATEGY:		
Maintain the current system of licencing for commercial baitfish.		Demand for baitfish licences exceed block availability.
TACTIC:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allow new entrants into the baitfish industry through transfer of whole licences or blocks or when licences become available through attrition. 		
STRATEGY:		
Maintain current practice of ensuring that the tourist operator has access to a supply of baitfish.		In some situations industry is unable to satisfy specific tourist operator requirements.
TACTICS:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide the forum for communications between the respective industries to work out supply problems. - Issue baitfish commercial licences for select bodies of water only when the operator can demonstrate proof of an inability to be supplied. 		

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(A) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED
<hr/>		
STRATEGY:		
Improve the district data base to assist the industry and the OMNR is managing the resource.		More information on baitfish production is required.
TACTICS:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage scientific studies on baitfish production through university research programs. - Utilize lake surveys to identify lakes with baitfish potential and make information available to the industry. - Provide the forum for effective communications with the industry so as to strengthen and improve the Ministry-Industry relationship. 		
STRATEGY:		
Increase awareness by dealers of the necessity to have adequate holding facilities.		Occasional occurrences of summer baitfish mortality.
TACTICS:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide baitfish dealers with information on methods of upgrading their holding facilities. - Continue district policy of standard holding facility requirements for all new entrants. - Do not reissue licences where the licensee has not made adequate effort to reduce mortality by upgrading holding facilities. 		

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

STRATEGY:		
Reduce the harvest of walleye and pike to below the allowable yield level.	All Zones	Walleye and pike overharvest.
TACTICS:		
- Pre-assessment to determine the number of walleye over 50 cm taken per day per angler.	All Zones	
- Post-assessment to determine effectiveness of this tactic in aligning harvest with yield.	All Zones	
- Pre-assessment to determine the number of pike over 70 cm taken per day per angler.	All Zones	
- Post-assessment to determine the effectiveness of this tactic in aligning harvest with yield.	All Zones	
STRATEGY:		
Promote the recreational aspects of sportfishing.		Walleye and pike overharvest.
TACTICS:		
- Enhance public education via seminars, brochures, video-tapes and programs to promote recreational fishing. (This involves providing technical advice to assist user groups in maintaining or improving the quality of their fisheries.)	All Zones	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

STRATEGY:		
Reduce the harvest of lake trout	Zones 3, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21 and 22	Harvest of lake trout exceeds the allowable yield for the district.
TACTICS:		
- Determine the number of lake trout anglers and number of lake trout in daily harvest. (Pre-assessment and post-assessment for all tactics under this strategy.)	All Zones	
STRATEGY:		
Improve the fisheries harvest information base.	All Zones	Data related to fisheries, productivity, characteristics of resource users; fish stocking and species interactions should be improved.
TACTIC:		
- Conduct lake or zone specific surveys or population studies. (This tactic is required to quantify harvest and angling pressure and assess the effectiveness of existing programs such as Crown Land Camping Program and to assess the effectiveness of all fisheries management tactics. This applies to lake trout and sportfish.)	All Zones as required annually to solve specific problems.	
- Assess number of non-resident lake trout anglers not accommodated at tourist operations.	All Zones except 16	
STRATEGY:		
Identify, protect, enhance and/or rehabilitate aquatic habitats.	All Zones	Potential habitat loss or degradation.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

TACTICS:		
- Rehabilitate degraded fish habitat.	All Zones	
- Expand aquatic habitat inventory surveys. (These lakes will be surveyed if there is a second lake survey crew.)	Zone 3 - Pack Lake, Sack Lake, One Mile Lake, Two Mile Lake, VE59-11, VF60-07, VF60-12, VF51-26 Zone 13 - VF42-19, VF42-12, VF43-43 Zone 15 - Line Lake, WE18-18 Zone 17 - Tremeeer Lake Zone 18 - VF65-13, VF64-03, Minor Lake, Eye Lake, Gerrard Lake, Mary Lake, Miller Lake, Richmond Lake, Glorious Lake, VF86-10, Jackfish (VF86-03), VF66-23, VF66-15, Nelson Lake, Peephole Lake, Pear Lake, VF85-08, VF84-06, VF96-05, Spadina Lake, Dennis Lake, Davenport Lake, Comeau Lake, WF15-19, Sunstrum, Swanson, Spine Zone 19 - VF57-15, Alfred Lake, VF78-13, VF69-06, VF69-04, VF69-02, Ryan Lake, Hogg Lake, Bednargik, Sneizek Lake, VF76-06 (Zubiak), VF77-09, VF76-02, VF76-12, VF76-21, VF68-01, VF56-02, VF76-16 Zone 21 - WE48-12, WE47-56, WE37-39, Kawashegamuk Lake, WE34-07	
- Identify shoreline aquatic habitat. (Intensively survey the critical shoreline habitats where there is a significant amount of patented land development which could damage the fish habitat.	All larger lakes with significant patented lands e.g. Eagle, Wabigoon, Cedar, Indian Lake Chain, Perrault, etc.. Zones 16, 17 and 18	

FISHERY MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
1987 - 1991 DRYDEN DISTRICT

(B) ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING

STRATEGY/TACTICS	LOCATION	PROBLEM/ISSUE ADDRESSED

TACTIC:		
- Beaver Dam removal on walleye spawning creeks.	All Zones Known problem areas include: Zone 16 - Kekekwa Creek, Niven Creek, Wawapus Creek, Napish Creek, Barren Brook, Gilbert Creek Zone 17 - McKenzie Creek	
STRATEGY:		
Reduce commercial sportfish harvest.	Zone 3, 16, 17 , 18 and 21	Competition for limited fisheries resources (primarily sportfish) among commercial fishermen, anglers and the tourist industry.
TACTICS:		
- Government purchase of sportfish quotas, including lake trout.	Zones 3, 16, 17, 18 and 21: Eagle Lake, Cliff Lake, Thunder Lake, Upper Manitou Lake, Gullwing Lake, Wabigoon, Butler, Dinorwic, Stormy, Kawashegamuk, Cedar, Perrault, Wabaskang, Williams (all commercially fished lakes).	
- Direct fishermen to other gear types and seasons.	All Zones where commercial fishing occurs.	

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GLOSSARY

ALLOWABLE YIELD

The weight of fish by species, that can be harvested annually from a lake, on a sustained yield basis, while maintaining angling quality.

ANGLING OPPORTUNITY

A measure of supply to indicate the amount of use which a resource can sustain. An angling opportunity may be defined as one fishing trip not exceeding one day in length.

AQUATIC HABITAT INVENTORY

A basic study of a lake to determine species present, water chemistry, depth, water volume and other characteristics. The information obtained can be used to determine the potential and allowable yields of the lake.

AREAS OF CONCERN

Areas requiring particular management prescription in order to maintain or improve resource values such as fish and wildlife habitat, forest genetic resources, scenic areas and other recreational and tourism values.

BAITFISH

Any fish that are legally harvested by the commercial baitfish industry.

BOAT CACHE

One or more boats left unattended on Crown land.

COARSE FISH

Fish species which are not normally sought by recreational anglers. This commonly includes fish from the families Catostomidae (suckers), and Gadidae (cods) or ling in the Dryden District.

COLDWATER LAKES

Those waters having characteristics which would support Salmonids.

COMMERCIAL FISH

Any fish that are harvested by the commercial fishing industry under the authority of a licence and marketed for human consumption. The most common commercial fish species in Dryden District are lake whitefish and cisco.

COMMERCIAL TOURISM OPERATION

Includes main base lodges, outpost camps and associated boat caches and houseboats.

CREEL SURVEY

A survey of anglers to determine angler origin, species of fish caught, weights of fish and number of hours fished. Other information such as gear being used and information on the age of fish may also be collected.

CRITICAL FISH HABITAT

Any fish habitat required for the maintenance of a healthy fish population or otherwise identified as essential to the achievement of the Ministry's fishery program objectives.

CROWN LAND RECREATION PROGRAM

An initiative implemented in 1984 in Dryden District of the OMNR, Northwestern Administrative Region. Non-residents of Canada are charged a fee to camp on Crown land. Some areas are closed to non-resident camping which encourages use of tourism establishments within those areas.

DLUG

Short form for District Land Use Guidelines.

DRYDEN DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

A document that identifies land and water areas where various Ministry of Natural Resources programs will be carried out over the long term to the year 2000. Detailed management guidelines are provided for each of these areas. It is the guiding document for the development of individual resource management plans, such as the Fisheries Management Plan. Resource management plans must be consistent with the policies and intent stated in this overall guiding document.

GOAL

A general purpose to which the Ministry aspires.

HARVEST

Fish taken and kept by resource users.

LAKE PRODUCTIVITY

The rate of fish production in a waterbody as determined largely by nutrient and energy inputs, and exploitation levels.

MANAGEMENT

The judicious use of means to achieve ends. Management may have various levels of intensity.

NON-RESIDENT

An angler whose principle residence is outside of Ontario.

OBJECTIVE

A quantifiable and attainable end to which the Ministry's efforts are directed.

OPPORTUNITY

A measure of recreation supply which is used to describe the number of times a resource or facility can be used (occasions of use) in a given time period. An opportunity is considered not to be greater than one day.

OUTPOST

Housekeeping accommodations usually in remote areas with limited access.

OVERHARVESTING

Harvests of fish by users which exceed the annual allowable yield.

PLANNING AREA

The area for which a planning process is carried out, and for which a resource management plan is prepared.

POLICY

The corporate decision concerning the objectives to be achieved and the means of achieving them. For resource management planning, we are mainly concerned with the objectives, targets, strategies and tactics.

REHABILITATION

This term may be applied to both fish populations and fisheries habitat. In both instances rehabilitation denotes efforts to enhance or restore a degraded or stressed situation to its original condition.

RESIDENT

An angler whose principle residence is in Ontario. A local resident would be one who can fish an area on a day use basis, i.e. travel to the area, fish, and return home on the same day.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The wise use of a particular resource, such as fish, to achieve a specific end.

SPORTFISH

Any fish that are sought after and legally caught by angling. In Dryden District this usually includes walleye, northern pike, muskellunge, lake trout, brook trout, smallmouth bass and yellow perch.

STRATEGY

Planned actions or measures to achieve a desired end.

TACTIC

A method devised to carry out the actions required to fulfill one or more strategies. Includes timing and other details not described in strategies.

TARGET

A quantified end to be achieved or completed by a specific date.

TOURISM

The business of attracting visitors and catering to their needs and expectations. Visitors are the travellers who will return home after their visit and who may return to pay another visit.

TOURIST OPERATION

An establishment or facility which consists of any one or a combination of any of the following: cabin establishment, camping establishment, cottage establishment, hotel, motor hotel, motel, outpost establishment, resort, houseboat operation or boat cache and is generally in the tourism business. Tourist and tourism outfitter and tourist or tourism operator have corresponding meanings.

UNDERPRODUCING WATERS

Waters from which the production is constrained because of stresses such as water quality, species composition, over harvest, undesirable species.

WARMWATER LAKES

Those lakes other than coldwater lakes.

APPENDIX I: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING DRYDEN DISTRICT
LAND USE GUIDELINES

CHANGES PROPOSED AS A
RESULT OF FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT PLANNING

ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Sportfish Objective	To meet the demand for sportfishing consistent with the limits of an optimum sustainable yield.	To provide for optimum social and economic benefits derived through sportfish while maintaining self-sustaining populations.	Although the objective is very similar in each instance, the proposed change is recognizing the social and economic benefits of sportfish while indicating that each species must be able to maintain itself. It also recognizes that existing demand may not be met and anglers may have to lower their expectations.
Sportfish Target	The district's capability to produce sportfish or the angler demand based on a satisfaction level of two kilograms of sportfish per angler day which-ever is the least.	Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 381,000 kgs. per year while meeting the demands for 333,100 angler days.	The proposed change recognizes that to maintain quality the harvest must not exceed the allowable yield. This can be accomplished without limiting opportunities but the satisfaction level is reduced to one kilogram of sportfish per angler day.
Lake Trout Objective	To provide for the maintenance, protection and enhancement of lake trout populations, and to provide recreational angling	To provide high quality recreational angling opportunities while maintaining self-sustaining populations.	These objectives are very similar since to provide high quality opportunities and self-sustaining populations all of the components of

APPENDIX I: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING DRYDEN DISTRICT
LAND USE GUIDELINES

CHANGES PROPOSED AS A
RESULT OF FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT PLANNING

ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Lake Trout Objective cont...	opportunities to the general public for this species, based on an optimum sustainable yield.		the DLUG objective must be met. However high quality is the key since the DLUG components can be met without ensuring high quality opportunities. The proposed change was made taking into consideration the lake trout's sensitivity and unique biological characteristics.
Lake Trout Target	To produce 11,000 to 32,000 kg. of lake trout per year consistent with a sustainable yield of 0.25 to 0.75 kg. of lake trout per hectare.	Maintain the harvest below the allowable yield of 31,700 kgs. per year while meeting the demand for opportunities of 32,900 angler days.	This change is a refinement of data which now permits the establishment of a single figure for the district rather than a range. It recognizes that the demand for opportunities can be met but must be done so within the context of a high quality angling experience. It also recognizes that the demand for opportunities can be met but must be done so within the context of a high quality angling experience. It further identifies that allowing the maximum harvest of lake trout may not provide maximum economic and social benefits.

APPENDIX I: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

EXISTING DRYDEN DISTRICT LAND USE GUIDELINES

CHANGES PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANNING

ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Commercial Fish Objective	To encourage the harvest of commercial fish when it is biologically and economically feasible.	To maintain a viable industry by encouraging the harvest of commercial fish, under the quota management system, where it is biologically and economically acceptable.	The DLUG objective is related to all commercial fish species including bait fish. The fisheries management objective is aimed only at the commercial food fish industry. The change recognizes the need for controls in the way of quotas and that the harvest must be acceptable rather than just feasible.
Commercial Fish Target	To maintain commercial fish harvests in the district at the level of existing quotas or where quotas are not in place, at the average level of harvest, which is 138,000 kgs./yr. The Dryden District target for commercial fish is the sum of the existing quotas or the average harvest for species not on quota (based on the last 3 yrs recent harvest data).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To sustain an annual harvest of 76,900 kg. of whitefish. - To reduce sportfish quotas, including lake trout, to zero by OMNR purchase. District to move quickly on trout and reduce walleye and pike quotas as opportunities present themselves. 	The DLUG target is the quota which was in place for all species of fish. The new target is for the principally caught species (whitefish) and considers that sportfish species should not be a target and harvest must be within annual allowable yields

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ITEM	GUIDELINE	PROPOSED CHANGE	DISCUSSION
Commercial Baitfish Objective	No objective established.	To provide for the harvest of baitfish for use by the sport fishery recognizing the overall social and economic benefits primarily generated through the maintenance of a viable baitfish industry.	This establishes a target specifically for baitfish in DLUG where one did not exist. It recognizes that baitfish is for use by the sport fishery but that any social and economic benefits are generated primarily through a viable baitfish industry.
Commercial Baitfish Target	To encourage the baitfish industry to meet the demands through natural and artificial culture.	To provide 183,000 dozen baitfish annually by year 2000.	This change will still meet the demand and is a result of refinement of data to more accurately reflect what the demand will be.
Land Use Activity Area # 9 Cottaging	Eagle, Lift and Augite Lakes considered for cottaging.	No disposition of Crown land for cottaging on Eagle, Lift and Augite Lakes.	This proposed change recognizes the recent confirmation of the presence of lake trout in these lakes. It also recognizes a significant over- harvest situation for sportfish on Eagle Lake. Additional shoreline development and angling pressure would place added stress on this fishery.

APPENDIX 2

MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR LAKES STRADDLING DRYDEN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARY

<u>DRYDEN</u>	<u>FORT FRANCES</u>	<u>KENORA</u>	<u>IGNACE</u>	<u>RED LAKE</u>	<u>SIOUX LOOKOUT</u>
Stormy	WE44-02	Oak	Islets	Nil	Sandy Beach
Kawashegamuk	WE34-08	VF48-08	Beak		Lynx
Mennin	Meggisi	VF47-01	WE55-17		Vaughan
Whipper	WE26-06	VF46-06	WE56-30		Bray
WF44-15	Uphill	Big Canyon	WE57-09		
WF-59-01	WE06-25	VR47-10			
VF69-01	Lost Axe	VF44-20			
VF69-02		VF44-24			
Howard		VF43-02			
Segise		Shrub			
Canyon		VF33-42			
VF33-46		VE32-52 (Gas)			
VF31-42		Rail			
Fish		Silvery			
VF41-57		VF32-59 (Eddy)			
VF40-13		VF31-43			
Roddy		VF31-54			
VE67-26		VF40-10			
VE67-54		VF40-17			
VF67-56		VF40-48			
Daniels		VF40-50			
Taylor		VF40-51			
Sunshine		VF59-58			
Surprise		VE58-08			
Skinny		VE68-51			
Upper Manitou		VE68-67			
Fishhawk		VE67-02			
VE86-16		Rainmaker			
Bait					
Melgund					

Figure 6

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ZONES

Management Intentions and Specific Tactics

PRINCIPAL MANAGEMENT TACTICS COMMON TO ALL ZONES

SPORTFISH

1. POSSESSION OF ONE WALLEYE OVER 50 CM (19.5") IN A DAILY LIMIT OF 6 FISH AND POSSESSION OF 1 PIKE OVER 70 CM (27.5") IN A DAILY LIMIT OF 6 FISH
2. REVIEW REQUESTS FOR EXPANSION OF EXISTING TOURISM CAPACITY OR NEW STARTS WITH MTR (CASE BY CASE)
3. WORK WITH THE TOURISM INDUSTRY TO DEVELOP MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO REDUCE THE HARVEST ON A LAKE BY LAKE BASIS
4. PROMOTE THE RECREATIONAL ASPECTS OF SPORT FISHING
5. PROMOTE THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE SPECIES
6. CONTINUE TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO RESOURCE EXTRACTION AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS USING APPROPRIATE GUIDELINES
7. REHABILITATE DEGRADED FISH HABITATS
8. CONTINUE WITH AN EXPANDED AQUATIC HABITAT INVENTORY PROGRAM

LAKE TROUT

1. NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA FISHING FOR LAKE TROUT MUST BE ACCOMMODATED AT AN ONTARIO BASE OF OPERATIONS (CAMPGROUNDS, HOTELS, TOURIST LODGES, OUTPOST CAMPS, ETC.) OR BE AN OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY
2. REDUCTION IN CATCH AND POSSESSION LIMIT TO 2
3. REVIEW REQUESTS FOR EXPANSION OF EXISTING TOURIST INDUSTRY FACILITIES OR NEW STARTS WITH MTR (CASE BY CASE)

MUSKELLUNG

1. NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA FISHING FOR MUSKY MUST BE ACCOMMODATED AT AN ONTARIO COMMERCIAL BASE OF OPERATION (CAMPGROUNDS, HOTELS, TOURIST LODGES, OUTPOST CAMPS, ETC.) OR BE AN OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY
2. DEVELOP A TAG SYSTEM FOR MUSKY TO PERMIT ANGLERS TO CATCH AND POSSESS 2 FISH PER YEAR
3. ENHANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION, THROUGH THE USE OF SEMINARS AND BROCHURES, REGARDING THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH INTRODUCING PIKE INTO MUSKY WATERS

COMMERCIAL FISH

1. USING SEMINARS AND USER GROUP MEETINGS, CONVEY INFORMATION ON COMMERCIAL CATCH STRATEGIES AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE THE UNDERSTANDING OF ANGLERS AND THE TOURIST INDUSTRY

2. OWN PURCHASE OF SPORTFISH QUOTAS INCLUDING LAKE TROUT

COMMERCIAL BAITFISH

1. CONTINUE TO ALLOW NEW ENTRANTS INTO THE BAITFISH INDUSTRY THROUGH TRANSFER OF WHOLE LICENCES OR BLOCKS OR WHEN LICENCES BECOME AVAILABLE THROUGH ATTITION

LEGEND

- Existing Fish Sanctuaries
- Proposed Fish Sanctuaries
- Remote Angling Areas
- Influence Location of Resource Extraction Roads To Access Underutilized Lakes
- Cottaging Lakes
- Alternative Species
- Adult Walleye Transfers
- Trophy Lake Trout
- Stocked Brook Trout
- Beaver Dam Removal
- Experimental Musky Management

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE FOR REMOTE ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES AND WILDERNESS RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCES
- MANAGE FOR QUALITY LAKE TROUT AND HARMWATER FISHERIES

TACTICS

- RESERVE AREAS FOR REMOTE ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES
- REGULATE NON-RESIDENT CAMPING AND ANGLING THROUGH CONTINUING USE OF RESTRICTED CAMPING ZONES

ZONE 13

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF WARMWATER AND COLDWATER FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES
- NO NEW CROWN LAND COTTAGE SUBDIVISIONS

TACTICS

- INITIATE ADULT WALLEYE TRANSFERS (KENORA DISTRICT LAKES)

ZONE 14

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE FOR HIGH QUALITY (TROPHY) WALLEYE FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF WARMWATER AND COLDWATER FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES
- MANAGE FOR PLANNED INCREASES IN ROAD ACCESSIBILITY (KENORA DISTRICT PORTION)
- NO NEW CROWN LAND COTTAGE SUBDIVISIONS

TACTICS

- IMPLEMENT SINGLE BARBLESS HOOK RESTRICTIONS
- IMPLEMENT SLOT SIZE MANAGEMENT FOR WALLEYE, RELEASE FISH BETWEEN 50 - 65 CM. (19.5 - 25.5")

ZONE 16

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF WARMWATER AND COLDWATER FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- NO NEW CROWN LAND COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT
- MANAGE LAKE TROUT AND MUSKY FOR TROPHY FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING RESIDENT ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES

TACTICS

- ESTABLISH NEW SANCTUARIES FOR WALLEYE (APRIL 1 - MAY 31)
- SPRING CLOSURE FOR NORTHERN PIKE (APR. 15 - 3RD SAT. IN MAY)
- SLOT SIZE MANAGEMENT FOR WALLEYE-RELEASE OF WALLEYE 40 - 50 CM. (15.5" - 19.5")
- SPRING CLOSURE FOR LAKE TROUT (APR. 15 - 3RD SATURDAY IN MAY)
- CATCH LIMIT OF ONE AND POSSESSION LIMIT OF TWO TROUT, ONLY ONE OF WHICH CAN BE OVER 65 CM (25.5")
- CONTINUE TO MANAGE WATER LEVELS
- REGULATE NON-RESIDENT CAMPING AND ANGLING THROUGH CONTINUING USE OF RESTRICTED CAMPING ZONES
- OWN PURCHASE OF COMMERCIAL SPORTFISH QUOTAS INCLUDING LAKE TROUT
- DIRECT COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN TO OTHER GEAR TYPES AND SEASONS

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE SPECIFIC LAKES FOR TROPHY FISH OPPORTUNITIES
- ENHANCE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LAKE TROUT ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES
- ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES
- NO NEW CROWN LAND COTTAGE SUBDIVISIONS
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING RESIDENT ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES

TACTICS

- RESERVE AREAS FOR REMOTE ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES
- REGULATE NON-RESIDENT CAMPING AND ANGLING THROUGH CONTINUING USE OF RESTRICTED CAMPING ZONES
- OWN PURCHASE OF COMMERCIAL SPORTFISH QUOTAS INCLUDING LAKE TROUT
- DIRECT COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN TO OTHER GEAR TYPES AND SEASONS

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE FOR INCREASED RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS

TACTICS

- DEVELOP A MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR SMALLER LAKES WHERE LEGAL SIZE MUSKY ARE RARE OR ABSENT (KENONA AND PINCHER LAKES)
- REGULATE NON-RESIDENT CAMPING AND ANGLING THROUGH CONTINUING USE OF RESTRICTED CAMPING ZONES

DRYDEN DISTRICT

Scale 1:250,000 Échelle



ZONE 18

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE FOR INCREASED QUALITY RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS
- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER AND LAKE TROUT FISHERIES
- MANAGE FOR CROWN LAND COTTAGING ON SPECIFIC LAKES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES

TACTICS

- ESTABLISH NEW FISH SANCTUARIES FOR WALLEYE (APRIL 1 - MAY 31)
- PERMIT COTTAGING ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, BASED ON BAC MANAGEMENT PLANS
- CONDUCT ADULT WALLEYE TRANSFERS TO BARREN WATERS (NORTH HODGINS, MAUCHOPE, APFLECK, BULGER AND ROSAMOND LAKES)
- PLAN THE LOCATION OF RESOURCE ACCESS ROADS TO ACCESS UNDERUTILIZED LAKES
- REGULATE NON-RESIDENT CAMPING AND ANGLING THROUGH CONTINUING USE OF RESTRICTED CAMPING ZONES
- DEVELOP A MANAGEMENT APPROACH FOR SMALLER LAKES WHERE LEGAL SIZE MUSKY ARE RARE OR ABSENT (ADAM, FINE AND RED BUSHY LAKES)
- OWN PURCHASE OF COMMERCIAL SPORTFISH QUOTAS INCLUDING LAKE TROUT
- DIRECT COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN TO OTHER GEAR TYPES AND SEASONS

ZONE 17

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE FOR QUALITY WARMWATER FISHERIES FOR WALLEYE AND PIKE
- MANAGE FOR RESTORATION OF THE MUSKY FISHERY
- NO NEW CROWN LAND COTTAGE SUBDIVISIONS
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING RESIDENT ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES

TACTICS

- ESTABLISH NEW SANCTUARIES FOR WALLEYE (APRIL 1 - MAY 31)
- IMPLEMENT A CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY MUSKY FISHERY UNTIL THERE IS A RECOVERY OF THE POPULATION
- DIRECT COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN TO OTHER GEAR TYPES AND SEASONS
- CONDUCT ADULT WALLEYE TRANSFERS
- REGULATE NON-RESIDENT CAMPING AND ANGLING THROUGH CONTINUING USE OF RESTRICTED CAMPING ZONES
- OWN PURCHASE OF COMMERCIAL SPORTFISH QUOTAS INCLUDING LAKE TROUT

ZONE 22

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER FISHERIES WHILE MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF THE LAKE TROUT FISHERIES
- MANAGE FOR CROWN LAND COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT ON SPECIFIC LAKES

TACTICS

- PERMIT COTTAGING ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, BASED ON LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANS

ZONE 21

MANAGEMENT INTENTIONS

- MANAGE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE LAKE TROUT FISHERIES WHILE MAINTAINING THE QUALITY OF THE WARMWATER FISHERIES
- MANAGE FOR FISHERIES BASED TOURISM ONLY TO THE EXISTING CAPACITY OF FACILITIES
- MANAGE FOR EXISTING ROAD ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
- NO NEW CROWN LAND COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT

TACTICS

- RESERVE AREAS FOR REMOTE ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES
- OWN PURCHASE OF COMMERCIAL SPORTFISH QUOTAS INCLUDING LAKE TROUT
- DIRECT COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN TO OTHER GEAR TYPES AND SEASONS



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